MARVEL COMICS
SPIDER-MAN
MAY '97 423
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
ELECTRO-CUTED!
JOE BENNETT '97
PIMENTEL
ATOMIC
WALK

IGNORING THE PROBLEM WON'T MAKE IT GO AWAY, JOE.
I KNOW, MARTHA.
THIS BLASTED TIE WON'T COOPERATE THIS MORNING.

LET ME TRY --!
HE'S TAKING ADVANTAGE OF YOU, JOE.
YOU HAVE TO SPEAK UP FOR YOURSELF.
I KNOW, MARTHA.

BUT IT ISN'T ALL JONAH'S FAULT.
THE DAILY BUGLE IS HAVING FINANCIAL PROBLEMS, AND HE WAS FORCED TO CUT STAFF.
THAT'S HIS HEADACHE! IT'S HIS NEWSPAPER.

YOU'RE ONLY AN EMPLOYEE, AND HE HAS NO RIGHT TO MAKE YOU WORK SO MANY ADDITIONAL HOURS WITHOUT COMPENSATION.
YOU HAVE OTHER OPTIONS, JOE. YOU COULD EASILY GET ANOTHER JOB.
I KNOW, MARTHA.

WE STILL ON FOR LUNCH?
OF COURSE!
YOU WILL SPEAK TO HIM...
WON'T YOU?

DEFINITELY!
NOT THAT I THINK IT'LL DO ANY GOOD.

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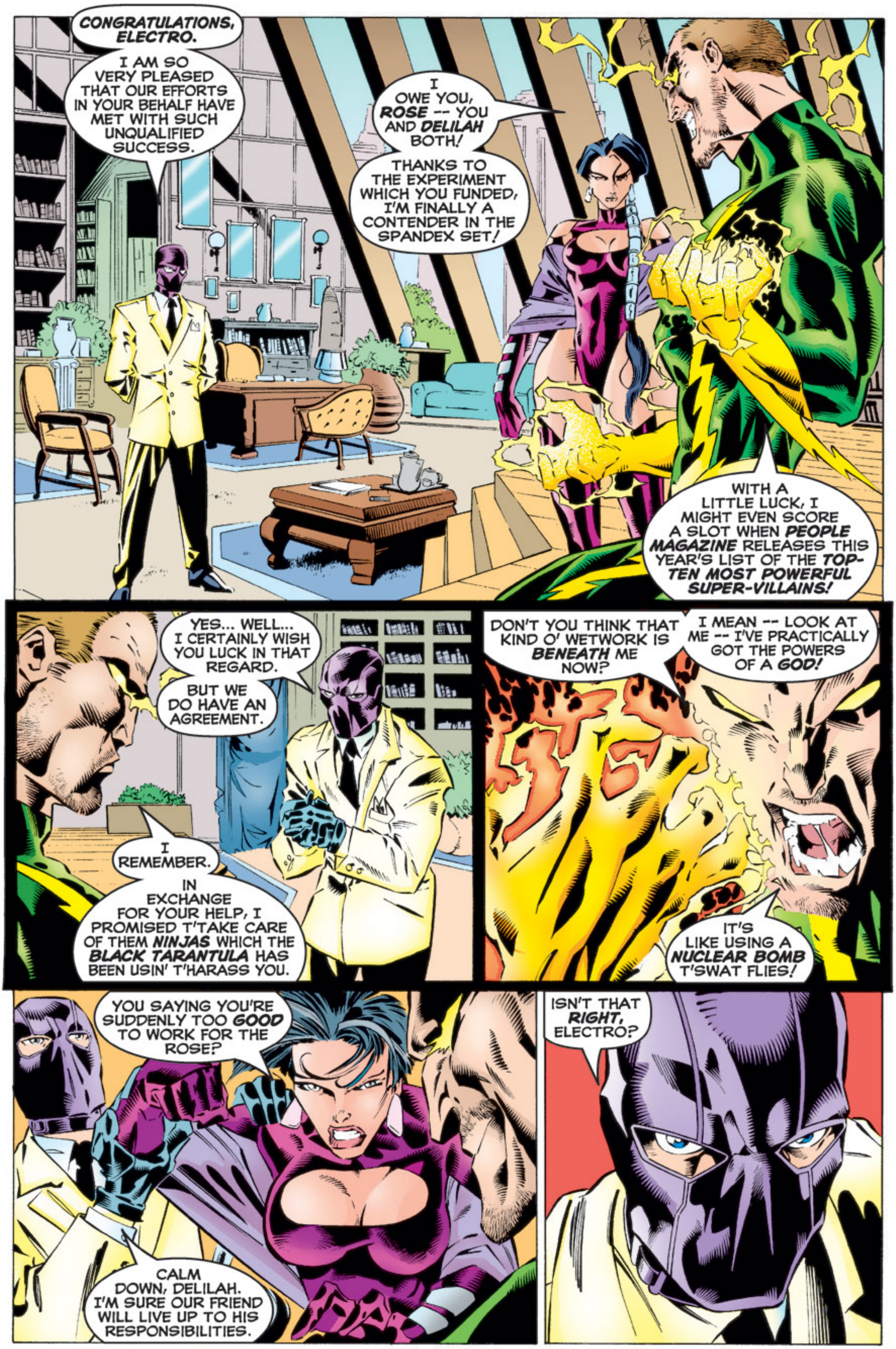
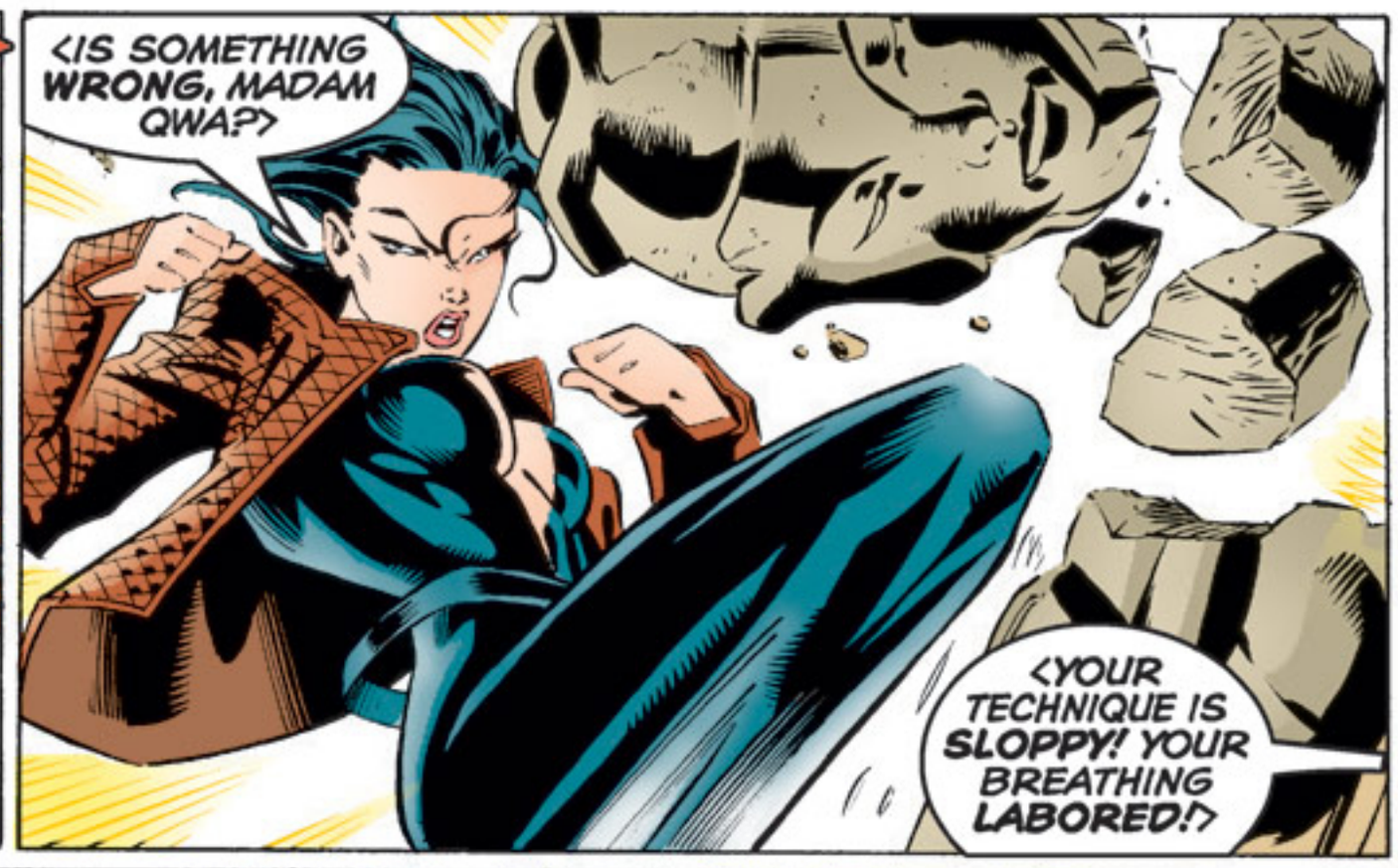

CONGRATULATIONS, ELECTRO.
I AM SO VERY PLEASED THAT OUR EFFORTS IN YOUR BEHALF HAVE MET WITH SUCH UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS.
I OWE YOU, ROSE -- YOU AND DELILAH BOTH!
THANKS TO THE EXPERIMENT WHICH YOU FUNDED, I'M FINALLY A CONTENDER IN THE SPANDEX SET!
WITH A LITTLE LUCK, I MIGHT EVEN SCORE A SLOT WHEN PEOPLE MAGAZINE RELEASES THIS YEAR'S LIST OF THE TOP-TEN MOST POWERFUL SUPER-VILLAINS!
YES... WELL... I CERTAINLY WISH YOU LUCK IN THAT REGARD.
BUT WE DO HAVE AN AGREEMENT.
I REMEMBER.
IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR HELP, I PROMISED T'TAKE CARE OF THEM NINJAS WHICH THE BLACK TARANTULA HAS BEEN USIN' T'HARASS YOU.
DON'T YOU THINK THAT KIND O' WETWORK IS BENEATH ME NOW?
I MEAN -- LOOK AT ME -- I'VE PRACTICALLY GOT THE POWERS OF A GOD!
IT'S LIKE USING A NUCLEAR BOMB T'SWAT FLIES!
YOU SAYING YOU'RE SUDDENLY TOO GOOD TO WORK FOR THE ROSE?
CALM DOWN, DELILAH. I'M SURE OUR FRIEND WILL LIVE UP TO HIS RESPONSIBILITIES.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, ELECTRO?

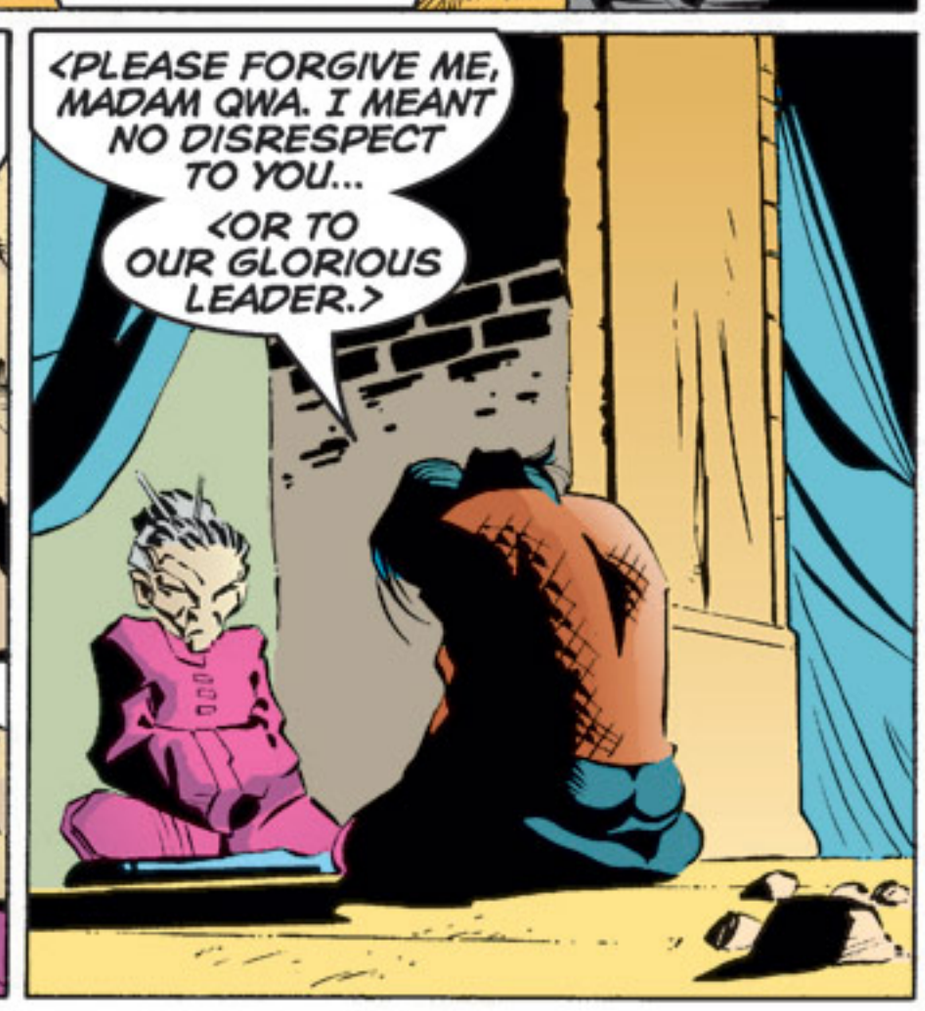
KWAK
<NO! NO!>

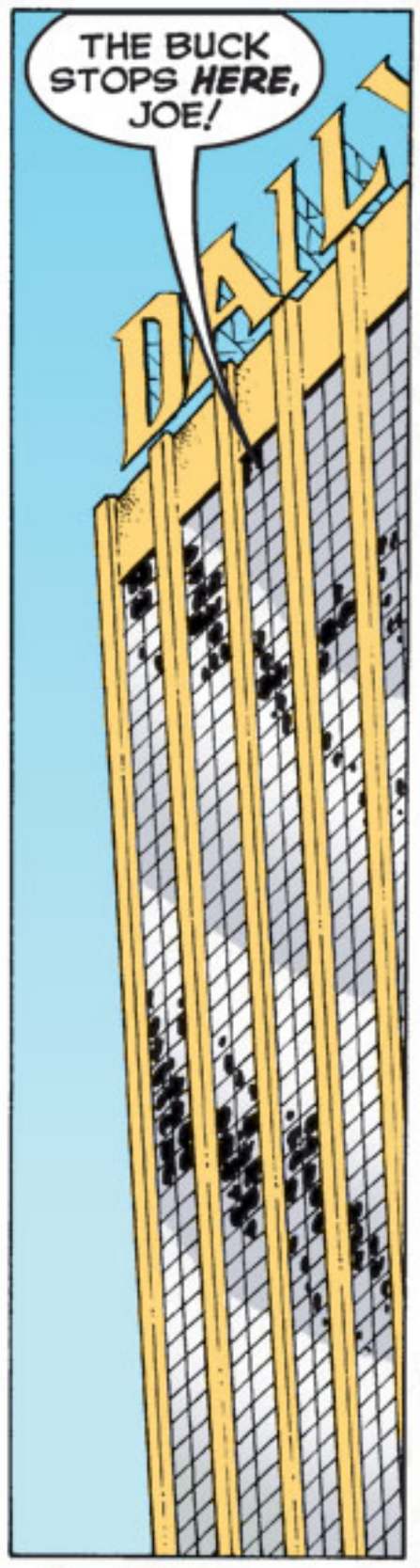

<IS SOMETHING WRONG, MADAM QWA?>
<YOUR TECHNIQUE IS SLOPPY! YOUR BREATHING LABORED!>

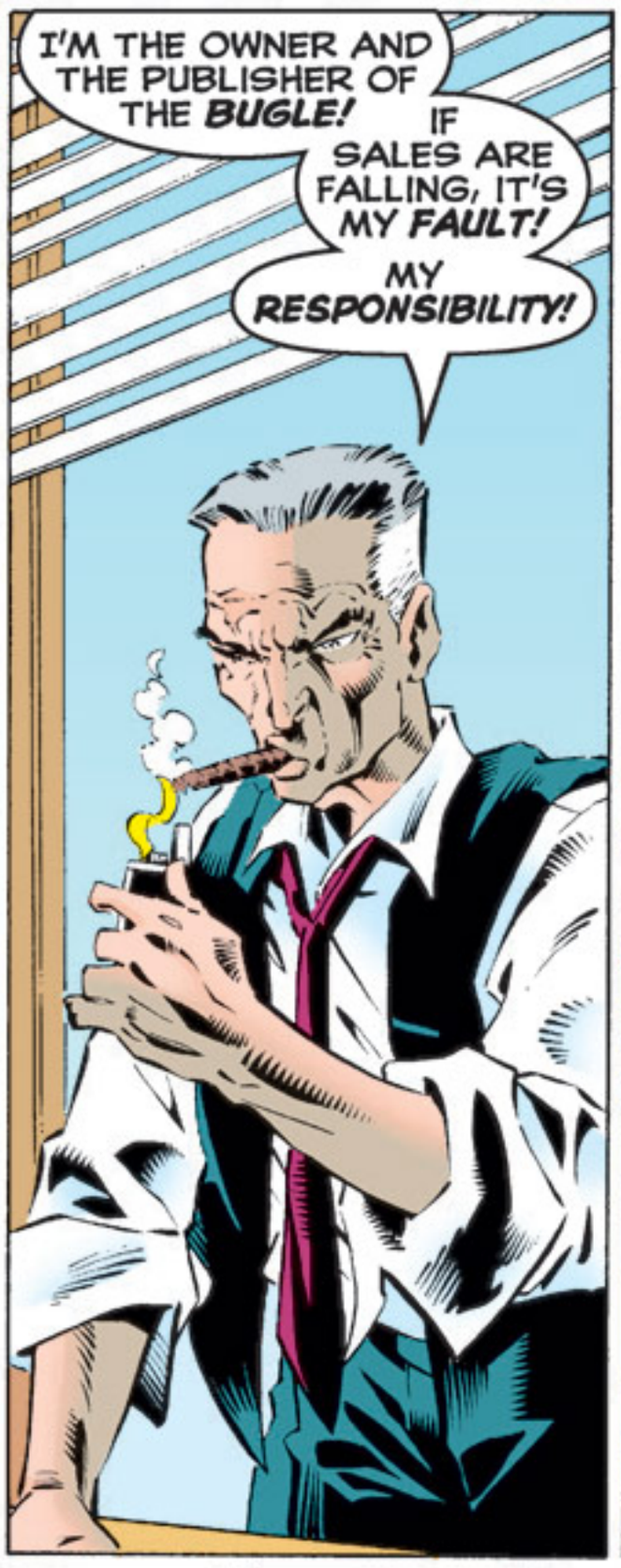
<B-BUT I HAVE SHATTERED EVERY TARGET!>
<IF YOU TRULY WISH TO RISE AMONG THE RANKS OF THE TRUE BELIEVERS, YOUNG DRAGONFLY... EVERY BLOW MUST BE PERFECT.>
<ANYTHING LESS IS A FAILURE!
<REMEMBER THAT AS YOU EMBARK ON YOUR FIRST ASSIGNMENT FOR OUR DEATHLESS MASTER.
<YOUR KILL IS A NEWSPAPER-MAN NAMED JOE ROBERTSON.>

<WHY WAS I GIVEN THIS PARTICULAR VICTIM?
<WHY NOT A CHALLENGE WORTHY OF MY SKILLS?
<SOMEONE LIKE SPIDER-MAN!>

<DO YOU, A MERE CHILD -- DARE TO QUESTION THE WISDOM OF THE DREADED BLACK TARANTULA?>


<PLEASE FORGIVE ME, MADAM QWA. I MEANT NO DISRESPECT TO YOU...
<OR TO OUR GLORIOUS LEADER.>


THE BUCK STOPS HERE, JOE!
DAILY

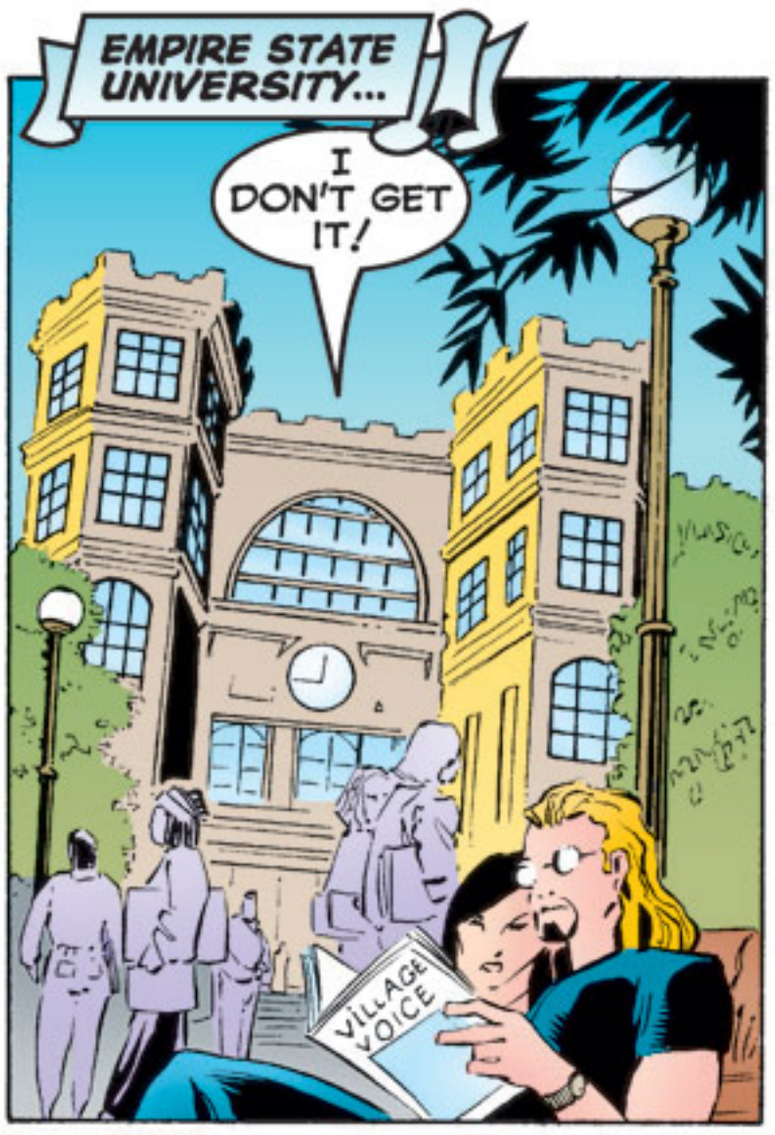

I'M THE OWNER AND THE PUBLISHER OF THE BUGLE!
IF SALES ARE FALLING, IT'S MY FAULT!
MY RESPONSIBILITY!

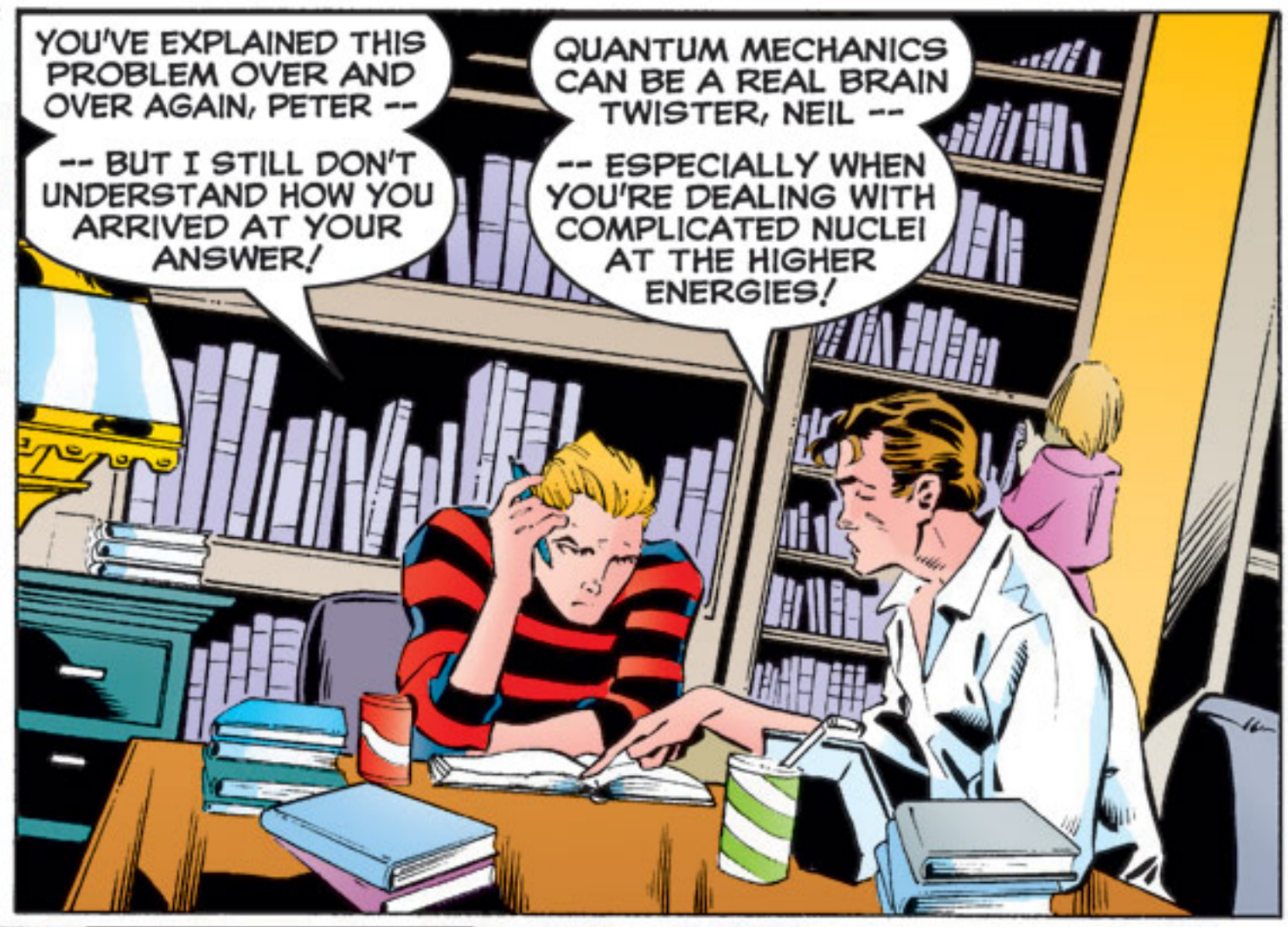
THE ONLY WAY WE'RE GOING TO END THIS DOWNWARD SPIRAL IS TO SELL OUR WAY OUT -- ONE NEWSPAPER AT A TIME!
THAT MEANS WE NEED FLASHIER FRONT PAGES!
HOTTER HEADLINES!
SEXIER LEAD STORIES!

WE'VE GOT TO PROVE TO Mr. AND Ms. NEW YORK THAT THEIR LIVES ARE INCOMPLETE WITHOUT A DAILY DOSE OF THE BUGLE!
IT MAY MEAN A LOT MORE EFFORT, EVEN LONGER HOURS... BUT WE CAN DO IT!

WE'LL LEAD THE REST OF THE STAFF BY EXAMPLE, JOE!
YOU AND ME -- WE'LL WIN IN THE END!
YEAH, JONAH...

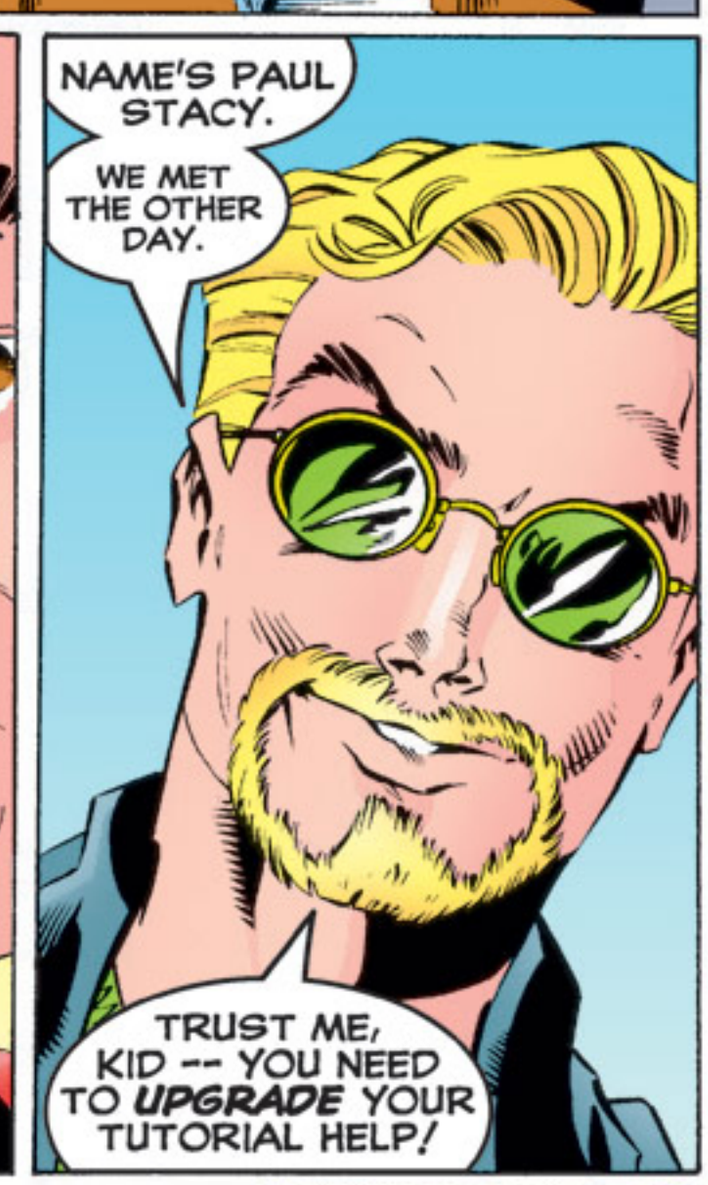
YOU AND ME!


EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY...
I DON'T GET IT!
VILLAGE VOICE


YOU'VE EXPLAINED THIS PROBLEM OVER AND OVER AGAIN, PETER --
-- BUT I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW YOU ARRIVED AT YOUR ANSWER!
QUANTUM MECHANICS CAN BE A REAL BRAIN TWISTER, NEIL --
-- ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU'RE DEALING WITH COMPLICATED NUCLEI AT THE HIGHER ENERGIES!

I'LL TAKE YOU THROUGH IT, AGAIN -- STEP BY STEP -- UNTIL YOU'VE FULLY MASTERED IT!

HAS IT OCCURRED TO EITHER OF YOU EINSTEINS THAT THE CONFUSION COULD SIMPLY BE BECAUSE PARKER'S ANSWER IS WRONG?
W-WHO SAID THAT?

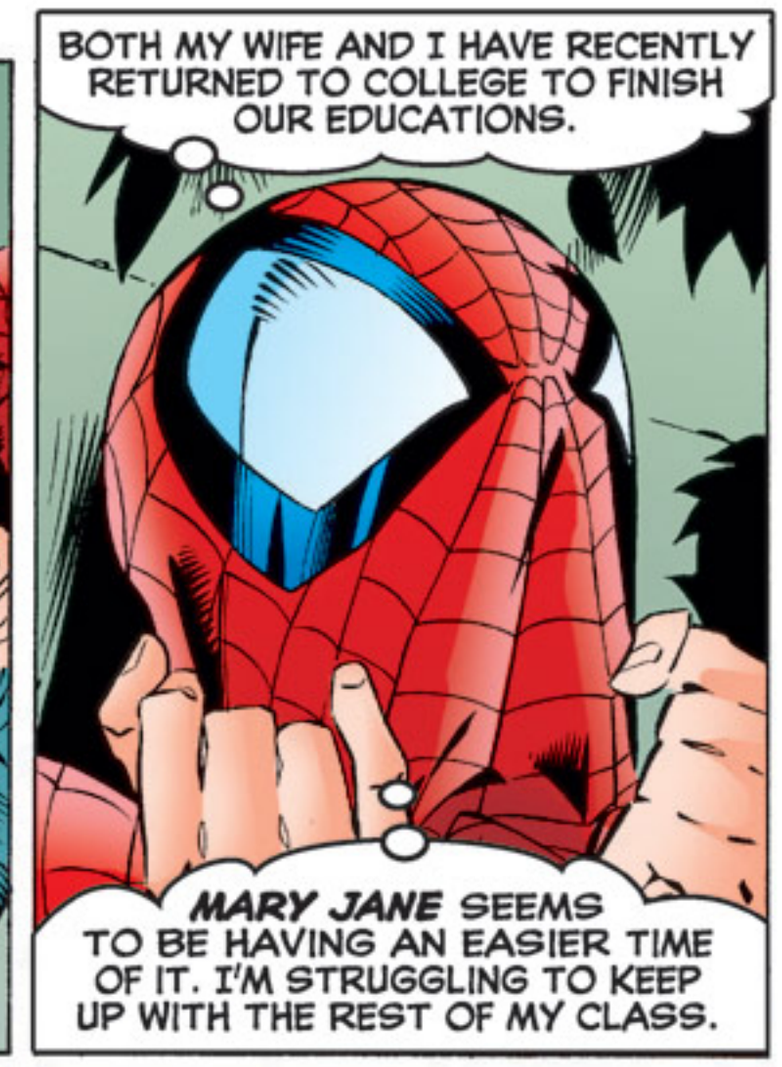

NAME'S PAUL STACY.
WE MET THE OTHER DAY.
TRUST ME, KID -- YOU NEED TO UPGRADE YOUR TUTORIAL HELP!

IF PETER PARKER REALLY WAS THE HOT-SHOT SCIENCE WHIZ HE CLAIMS TO BE --
-- HE WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO ME!
ANY CHANCE THE LOUDMOUTH'S RIGHT?
I SUPPOSE IT'S POSSIBLE.

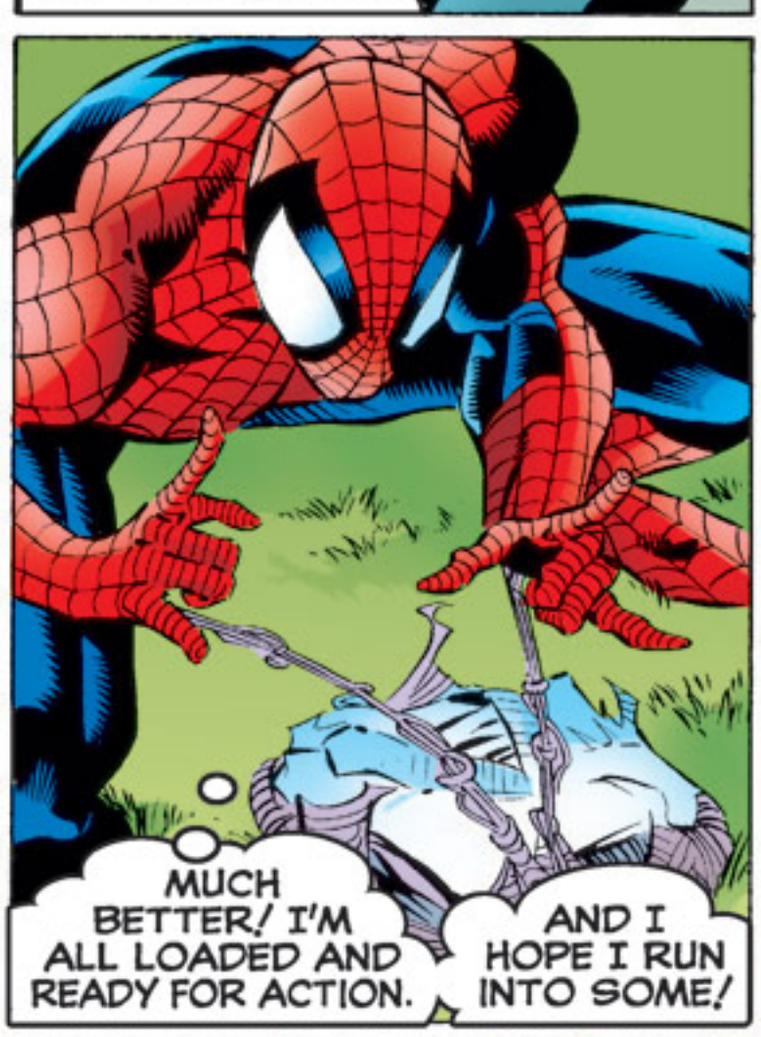
Y'KNOW, PARKER, IF I REALLY WANT TO LEARN FROM THE BEST -- MAYBE I SHOULD JUST GO TO HIM -- AND CUT OUT THE MIDDLE-MAN!
BITING BACK HIS INSTINCTIVE -- AND RATHER RUDE -- RESPONSE, PETER PARKER QUICKLY TAKES HIS LEAVE...

AND, MOMENTS LATER...
THIS LOOKS LIKE A NICE SECLUDED SPOT TO CHANGE OUT OF MY CIVIES --
-- AND MY SPIDER-SENSE WILL BUZZ A WARNING --
-- IF I'M IN ANY DANGER OF BEING SEEN!

MAYBE I SHOULD ENCOURAGE NEIL AIKEN TO DITCH ME.
I HAVE ENOUGH ON MY PLATE WITHOUT THE ADDED RESPONSIBILITY OF TUTORING HIM.

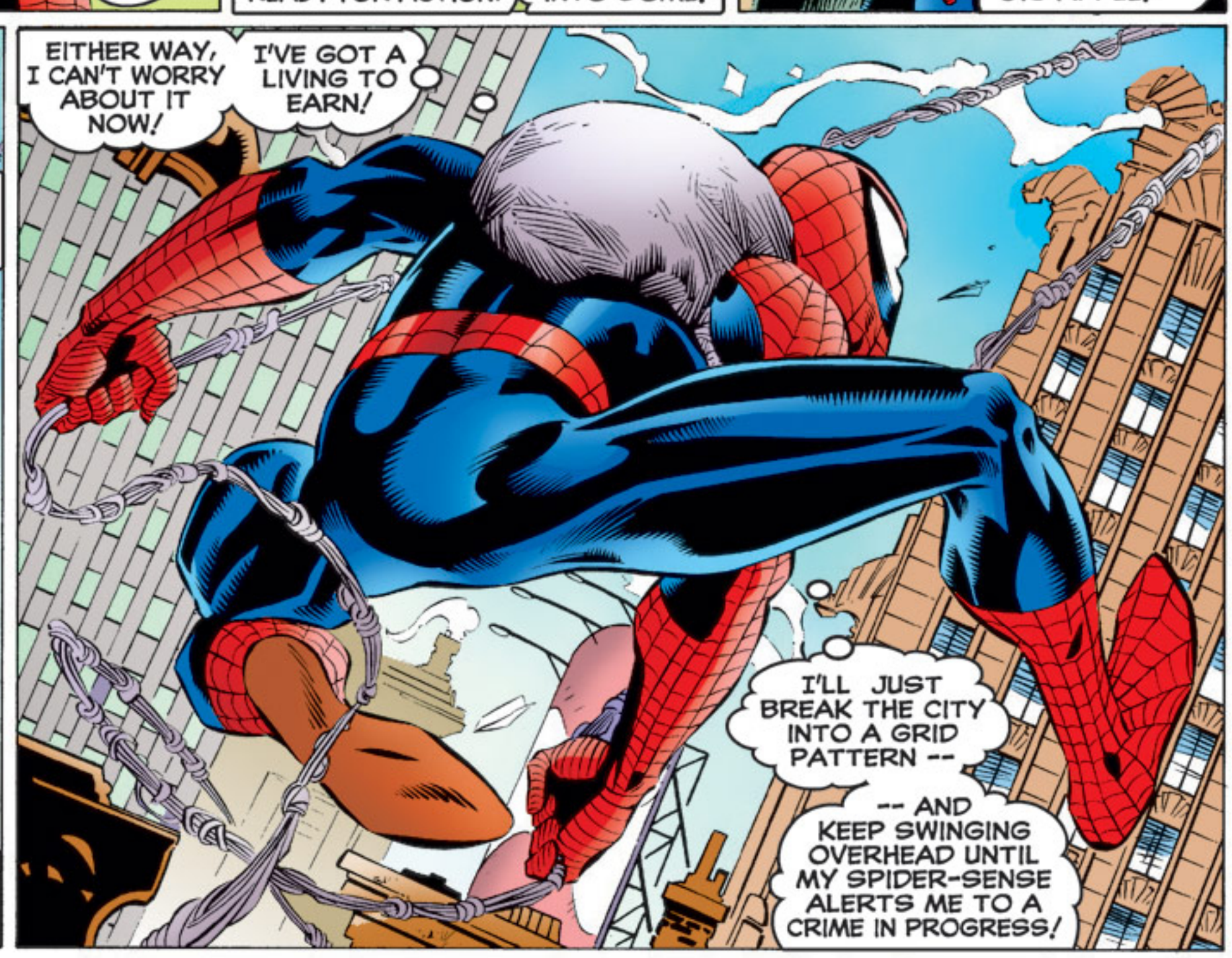

BOTH MY WIFE AND I HAVE RECENTLY RETURNED TO COLLEGE TO FINISH OUR EDUCATIONS.
MARY JANE SEEMS TO BE HAVING AN EASIER TIME OF IT. I'M STRUGGLING TO KEEP UP WITH THE REST OF MY CLASS.

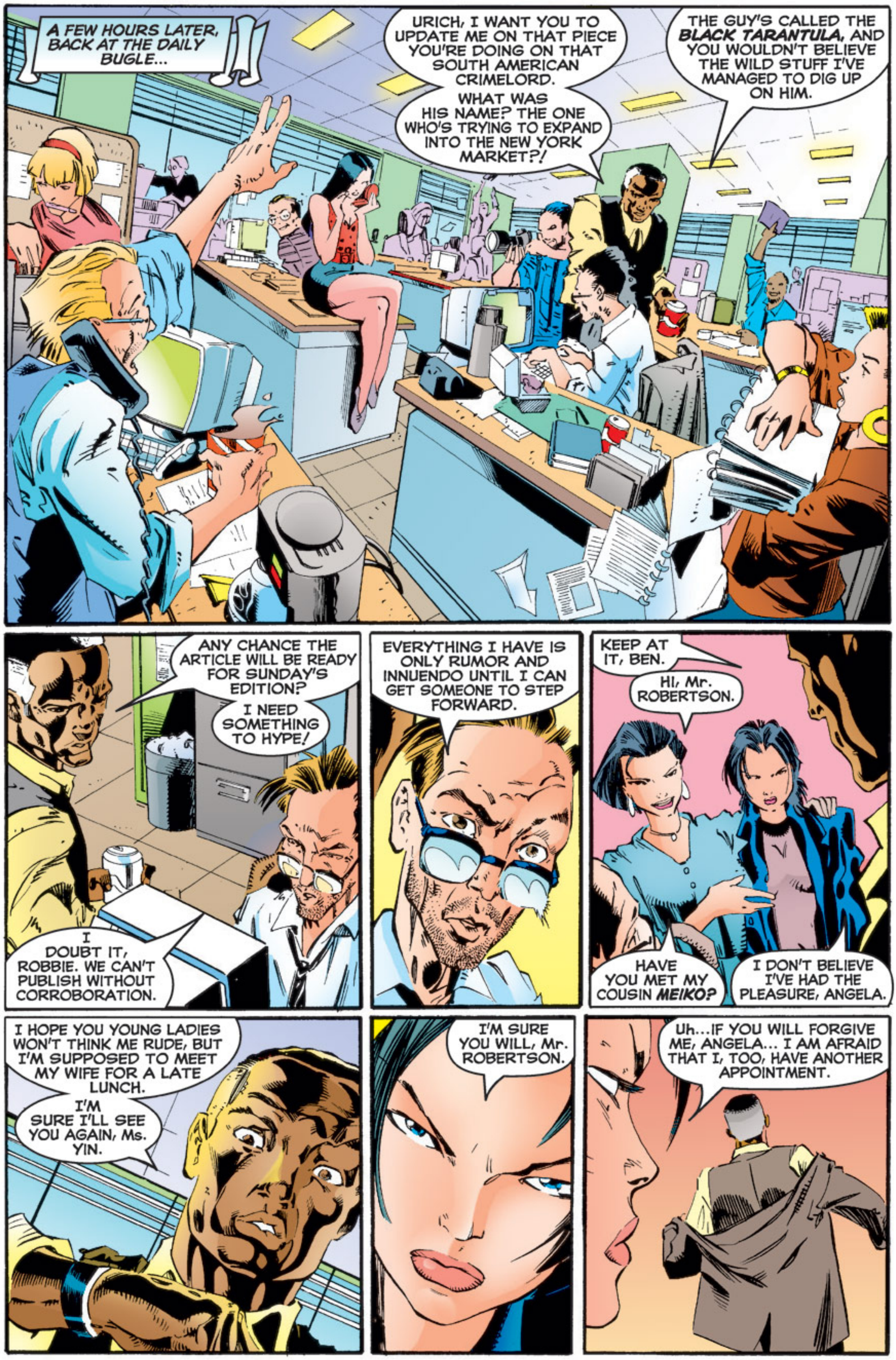
AND AN OBNOXIOUS CLOWN LIKE PAUL STACY ISN'T EXACTLY ADDING TO THE QUALITY OF MY LIFE!
GLAD I DECIDED TO CHECK MY WEB-SHOOTERS.
THIS CARTRIDGE IS A LITTLE LOW.

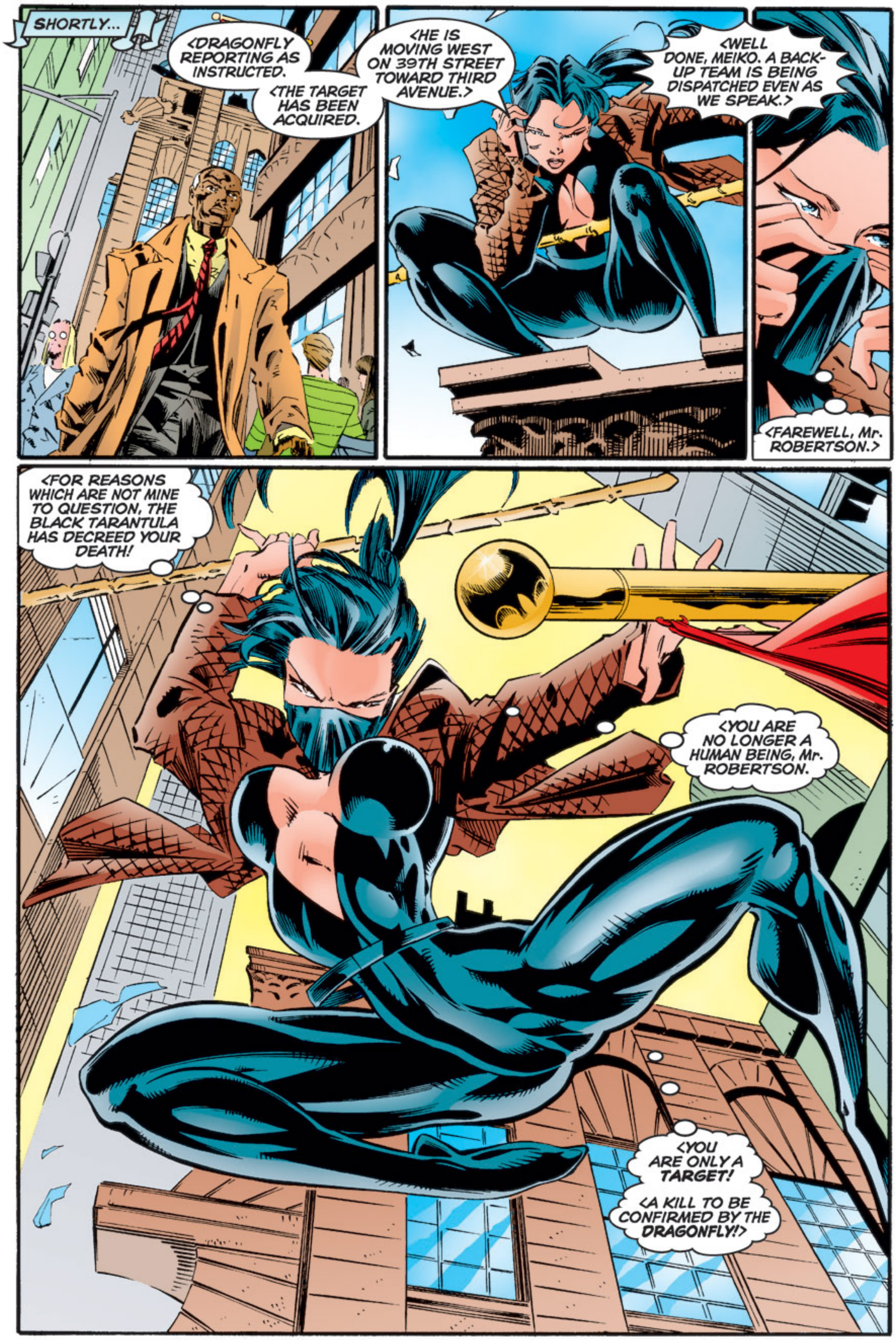

MUCH BETTER! I'M ALL LOADED AND READY FOR ACTION.
AND I HOPE I RUN INTO SOME!

MY ONLY SOURCE OF INCOME IS SHOOTING NEWSWORTHY PICTURES OF MYSELF FOR THE BUGLE.
LUCKY FOR ME, CRIME RARELY TAKES A HOLIDAY IN THE BIG APPLE!

BUGNN
MY NOGGIN'S STARTING TO POUND AGAIN.
I WONDER IF THESE RECURRING HEADACHES ARE THE RESULT OF STRESS --
-- OR BECAUSE I WAS BIT BY MORBIUS, THE LIVING VAMPIRE!

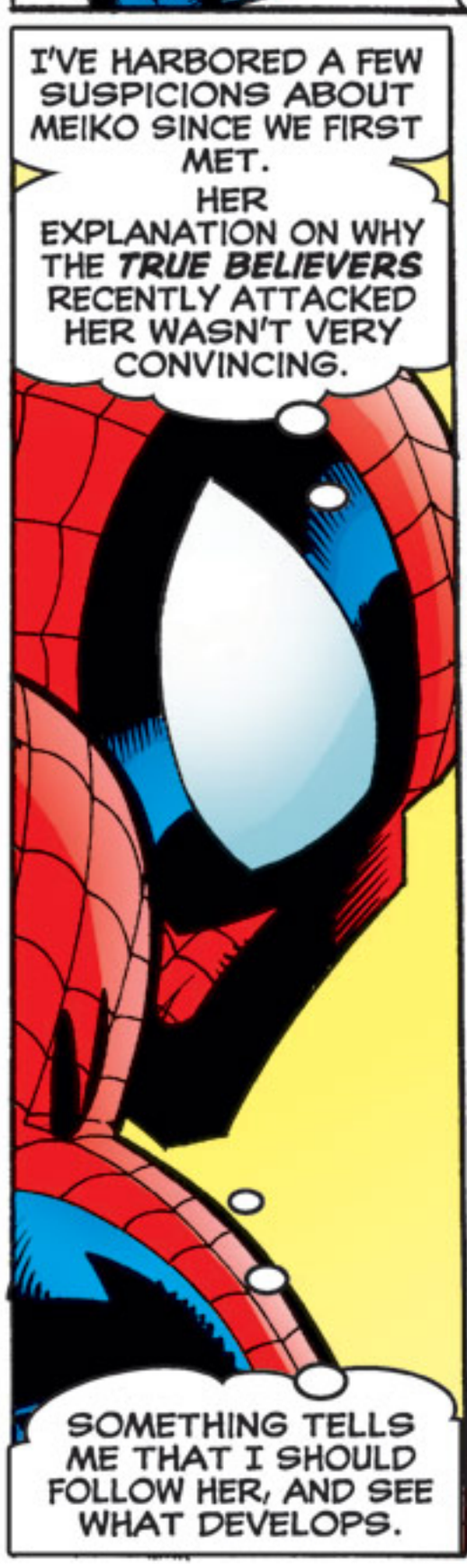

EITHER WAY, I CAN'T WORRY ABOUT IT NOW!
I'VE GOT A LIVING TO EARN!
I'LL JUST BREAK THE CITY INTO A GRID PATTERN --
-- AND KEEP SWINGING OVERHEAD UNTIL MY SPIDER-SENSE ALERTS ME TO A CRIME IN PROGRESS!


A FEW HOURS LATER, BACK AT THE DAILY BUGLE...
URICH, I WANT YOU TO UPDATE ME ON THAT PIECE YOU'RE DOING ON THAT SOUTH AMERICAN CRIMELORD.
WHAT WAS HIS NAME? THE ONE WHO'S TRYING TO EXPAND INTO THE NEW YORK MARKET?!
THE GUY'S CALLED THE BLACK TARANTULA, AND YOU WOULDN'T BELIEVE THE WILD STUFF I'VE MANAGED TO DIG UP ON HIM.
ANY CHANCE THE ARTICLE WILL BE READY FOR SUNDAY'S EDITION?
I NEED SOMETHING TO HYPE!
I DOUBT IT, ROBBIE. WE CAN'T PUBLISH WITHOUT CORROBORATION.
EVERYTHING I HAVE IS ONLY RUMOR AND INNUENDO UNTIL I CAN GET SOMEONE TO STEP FORWARD.
KEEP AT IT, BEN.
HI, Mr. ROBERTSON.
HAVE YOU MET MY COUSIN MEIKO?
I DON'T BELIEVE I'VE HAD THE PLEASURE, ANGELA.
I HOPE YOU YOUNG LADIES WON'T THINK ME RUDE, BUT I'M SUPPOSED TO MEET MY WIFE FOR A LATE LUNCH.
I'M SURE I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN, Ms. YIN.
I'M SURE YOU WILL, Mr. ROBERTSON.
Uh...IF YOU WILL FORGIVE ME, ANGELA... I AM AFRAID THAT I, TOO, HAVE ANOTHER APPOINTMENT.


SHORTLY...
<DRAGONFLY REPORTING AS INSTRUCTED.
<THE TARGET HAS BEEN ACQUIRED.
<HE IS MOVING WEST ON 39TH STREET TOWARD THIRD AVENUE.>
<WELL DONE, MEIKO. A BACK-UP TEAM IS BEING DISPATCHED EVEN AS WE SPEAK.>
<FAREWELL, Mr. ROBERTSON.>
<FOR REASONS WHICH ARE NOT MINE TO QUESTION, THE BLACK TARANTULA HAS DECREED YOUR DEATH!
<YOU ARE NO LONGER A HUMAN BEING, Mr. ROBERTSON.
<YOU ARE ONLY A TARGET!
<A KILL TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE DRAGONFLY!>

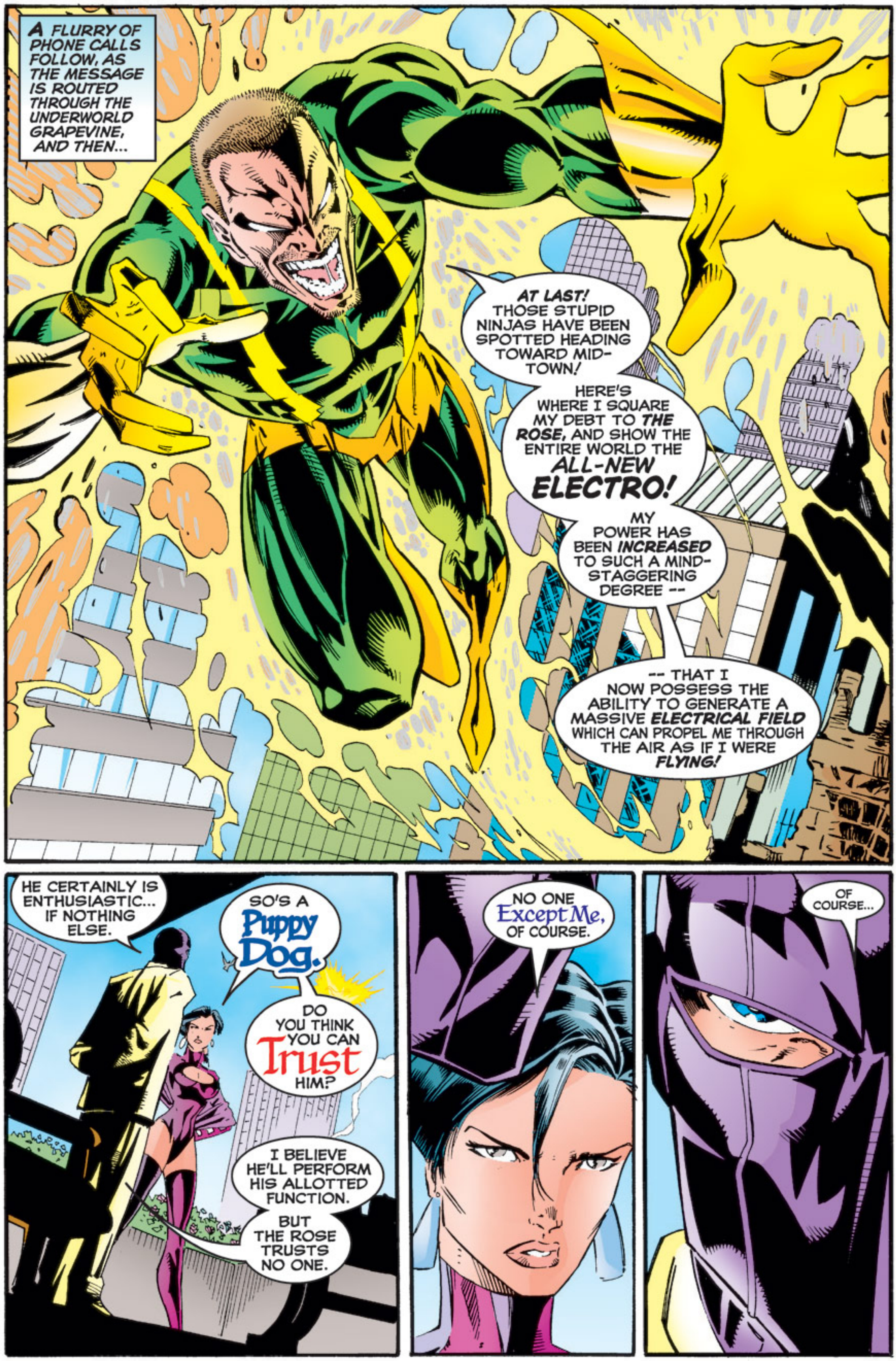
MEANWHILE...
GREAT PLAN YOU HAD, Mr. PARKER!
YOU'VE CRISS-CROSSED THE ENTIRE CITY, AND ONLY SUCCEEDED IN WASTING YOUR TIME AND WEB FLUID!
MAYBE I SHOULD STOP IN AT THE BUGLE, AND -- WHOA!

I SUDDENLY SENSE THE POSSIBILITY OF DANGER, AND I CAN SEE WHY!
THAT LITTLE ROOF-HOPPER LOOKS AN AWFUL LOT LIKE ANGELA YIN'S COUSIN.
I KNOW MEIKO'S A SKILLED MARTIAL ARTIST, BUT WHY WOULD SHE SET OFF MY SPIDER-SENSE?


I'VE HARBORED A FEW SUSPICIONS ABOUT MEIKO SINCE WE FIRST MET.
HER EXPLANATION ON WHY THE TRUE BELIEVERS RECENTLY ATTACKED HER WASN'T VERY CONVINCING.
SOMETHING TELLS ME THAT I SHOULD FOLLOW HER, AND SEE WHAT DEVELOPS.

URKKK! I JUST WISH I COULD LOSE THIS BLASTED HEADACHE!
IF IT GETS MUCH WORSE --
-- IT'S BOUND TO AFFECT MY REFLEXES!

EVEN AS SPIDER-MAN SILENTLY PURSUES HIS QUARRY, SOMEWHERE ACROSS TOWN...
LOOK -- NINJAS!
ANYBODY GOT A CEL PHONE?
SOME GUY'S PAYING FOR REPORTS ON THOSE GUYS.


A FLURRY OF PHONE CALLS FOLLOW, AS THE MESSAGE IS ROUTED THROUGH THE UNDERWORLD GRAPEVINE, AND THEN...
AT LAST! THOSE STUPID NINJAS HAVE BEEN SPOTTED HEADING TOWARD MID-TOWN!
HERE'S WHERE I SQUARE MY DEBT TO THE ROSE, AND SHOW THE ENTIRE WORLD THE ALL-NEW ELECTRO!
MY POWER HAS BEEN INCREASED TO SUCH A MIND-STAGGERING DEGREE --
-- THAT I NOW POSSESS THE ABILITY TO GENERATE A MASSIVE ELECTRICAL FIELD WHICH CAN PROPEL ME THROUGH THE AIR AS IF I WERE FLYING!
HE CERTAINLY IS ENTHUSIASTIC... IF NOTHING ELSE.
SO'S A Puppy Dog.
DO YOU THINK YOU CAN Trust HIM?
I BELIEVE HE'LL PERFORM HIS ALLOTTED FUNCTION.
BUT THE ROSE TRUSTS NO ONE.
NO ONE Except Me, OF COURSE.
OF COURSE...

DID I KEEP YOU WAITING?
NOT AT ALL! YOU SPEAK TO JONAH? HOW DID HE REACT? WHAT WERE HIS EXACT WORDS?
Uh... MARTHA...
YOU DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING, DID YOU?

THE SITUATION IS A LOT MORE COMPLICATED THAN --
JOE ROBERTSON!
W-WHO ARE YOU -- !?!

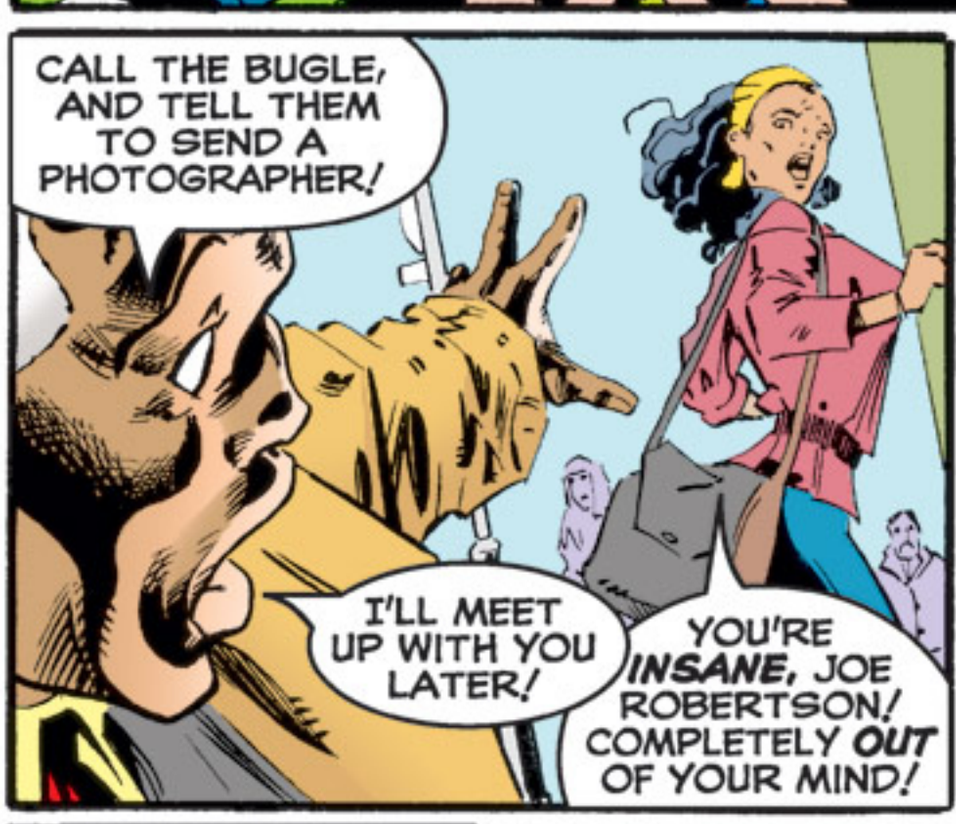
I AM THE DRAGONFLY --
THE INSTRUMENT OF YOUR DEATH!
W-WHAT DOES SHE MEAN, JOE? WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?

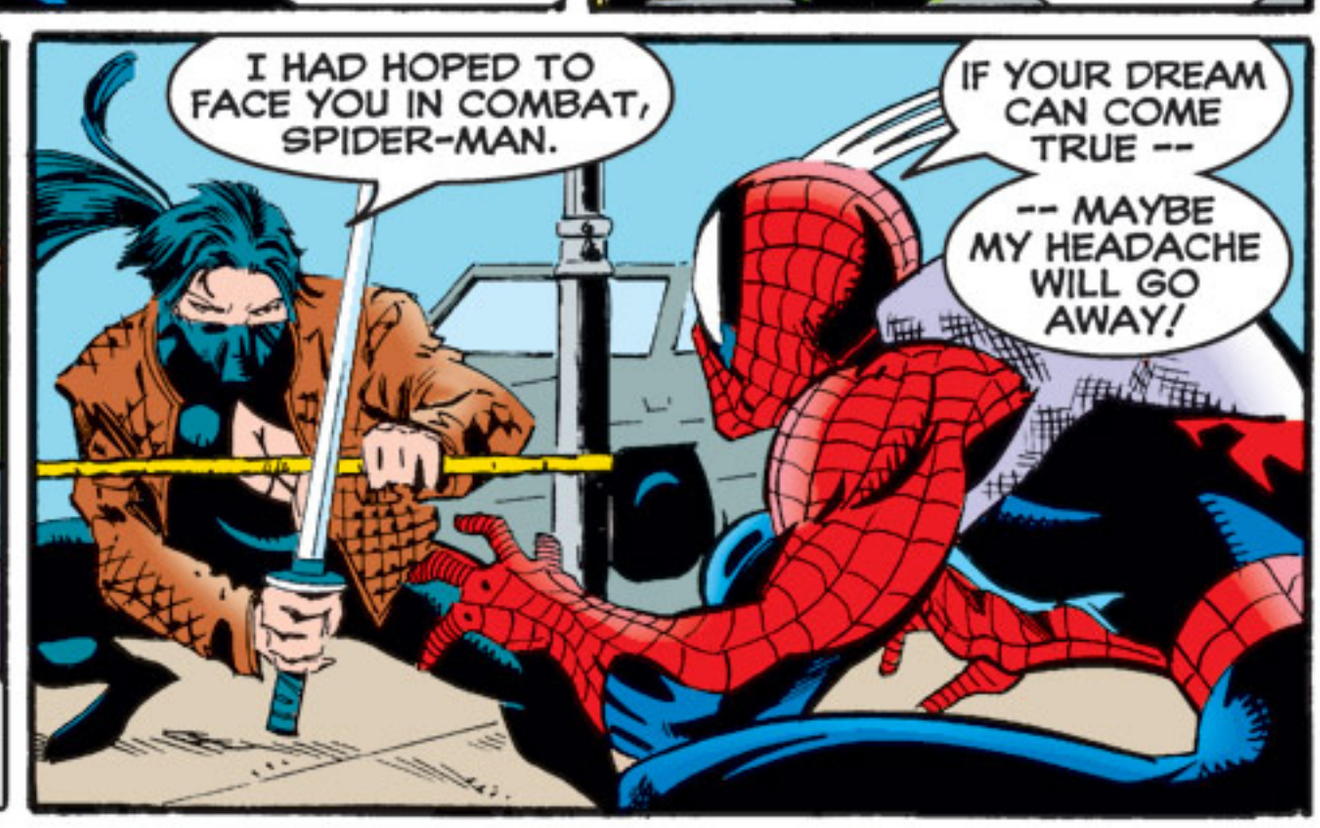
RELAX, Mrs. ROBERTSON! EVERYTHING'LL BE JUST FINE!
JUST PUT YOUR FAITH IN YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD WEB-SLINGER!
SPIDER-MAN!

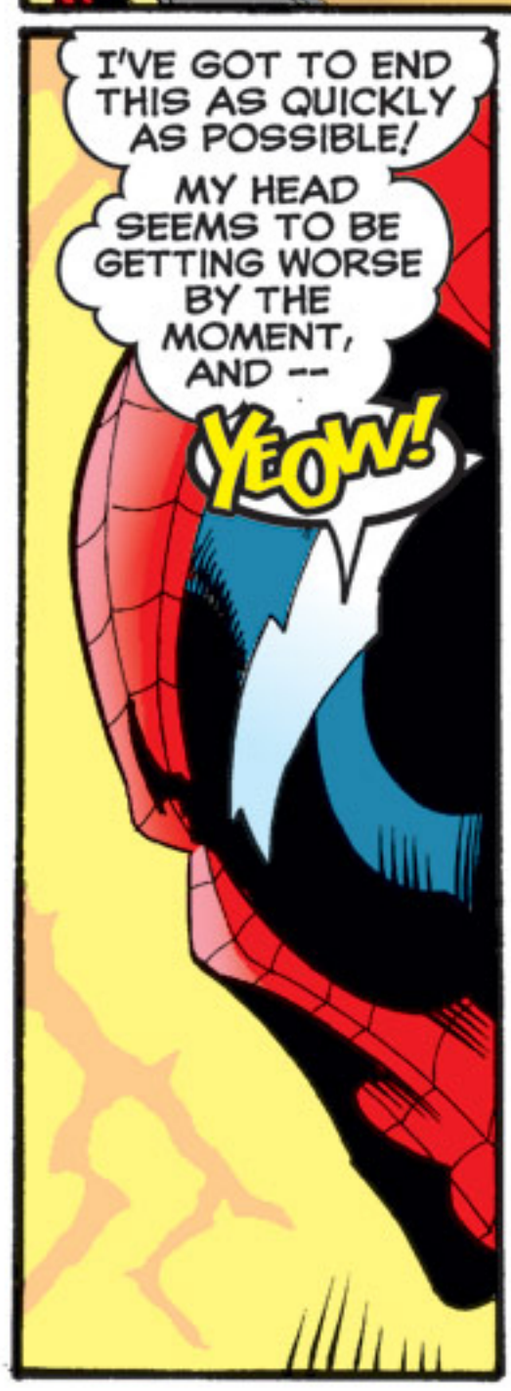
IT'S MY FAULT THAT THINGS GOT SO FAR OUT OF HAND!
WHILE I STOPPED TO POP A FEW ASPIRIN --
-- MEIKO WAS LINKING UP WITH MORE NINJAS!
T-THESE PEOPLE HAVE SWORDS --
Ahhh, YES! BUT MERE RAZOR-SHARP BLADES ARE STILL NO MATCH FOR --

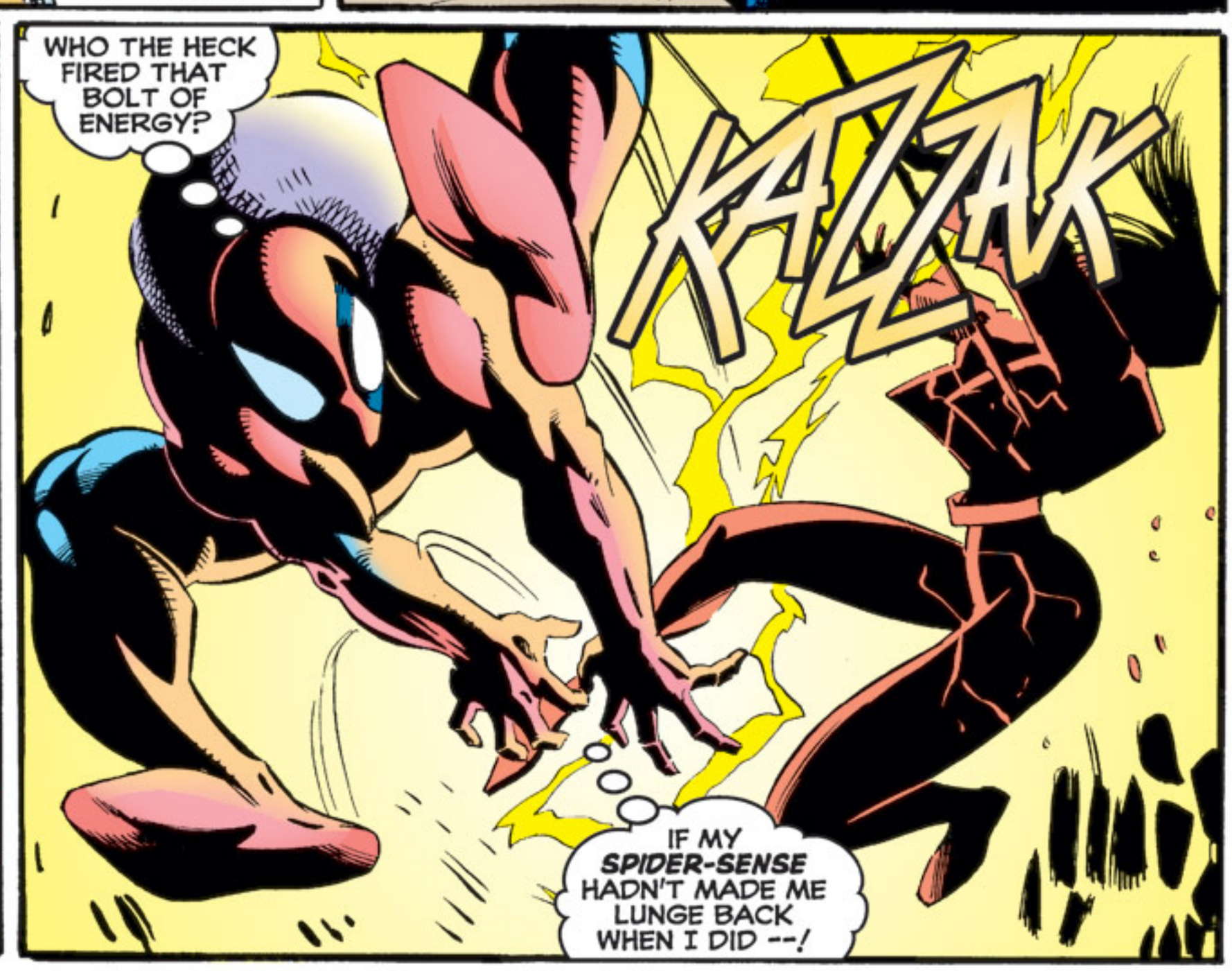
-- THE STRENGTH AND THE AGILITY OF YE HUMBLE WALL-CRAWLER!
AT LEAST THEY WOULDN'T BE... IF THIS LOUSY HEADACHE WASN'T SLOWING ME DOWN!
GET OUT OF HERE, ROBERTSON!
GRAB YOUR WIFE-- AND GO!

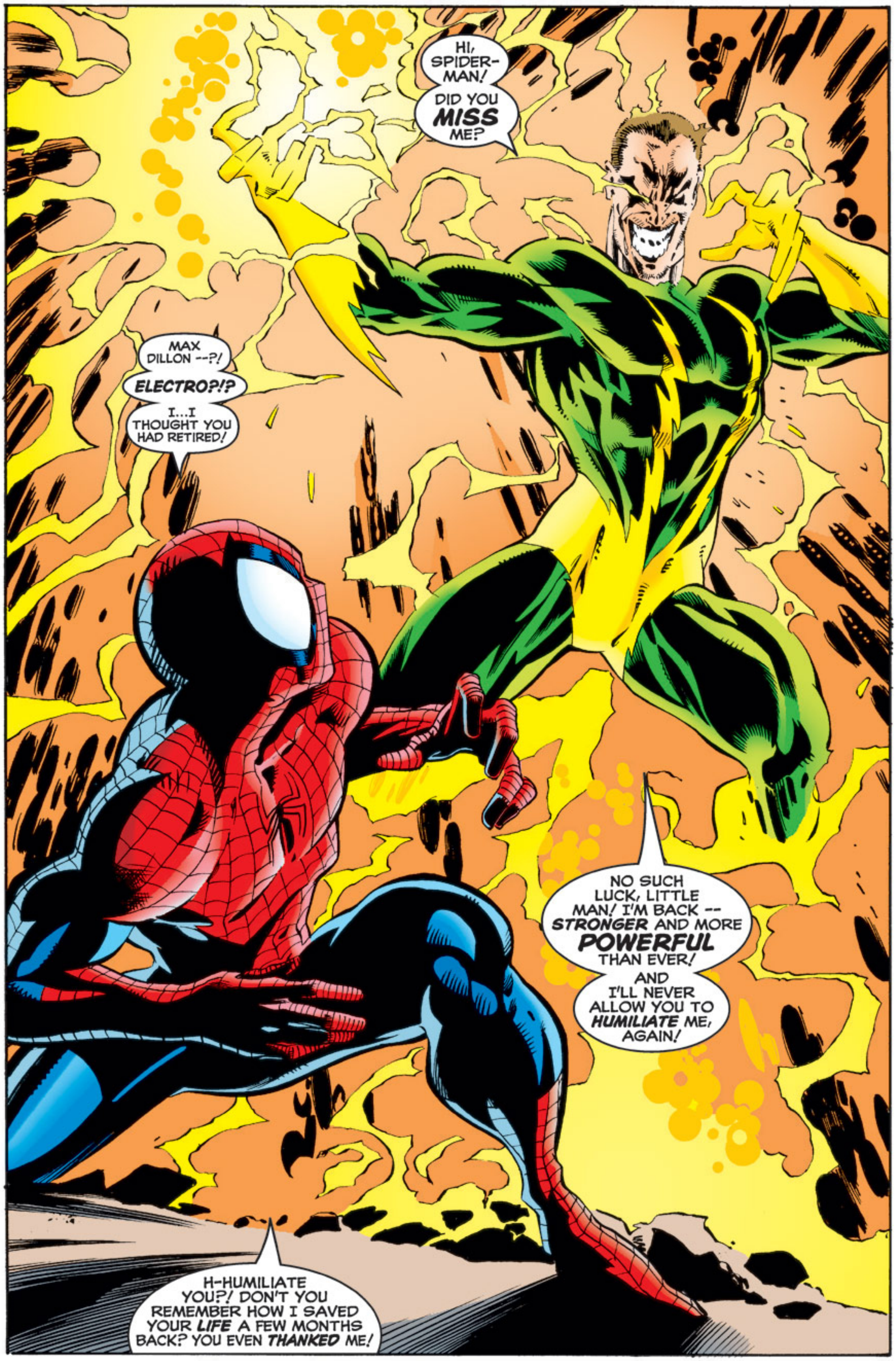
Y-YOU HEARD THE MAN, JOE! LET'S MOVE!
I...I CAN'T LEAVE, MARTHA!
THIS COULD BE THE STORY I NEED!


CALL THE BUGLE, AND TELL THEM TO SEND A PHOTOGRAPHER!
I'LL MEET UP WITH YOU LATER!
YOU'RE INSANE, JOE ROBERTSON! COMPLETELY OUT OF YOUR MIND!

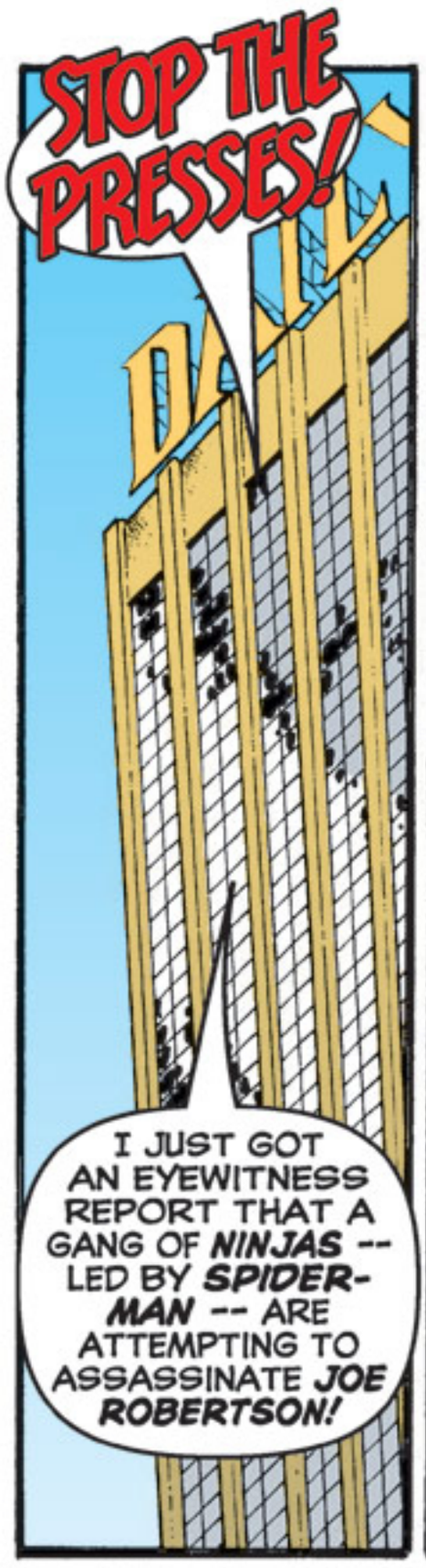

I HAD HOPED TO FACE YOU IN COMBAT, SPIDER-MAN.
IF YOUR DREAM CAN COME TRUE --
-- MAYBE MY HEADACHE WILL GO AWAY!

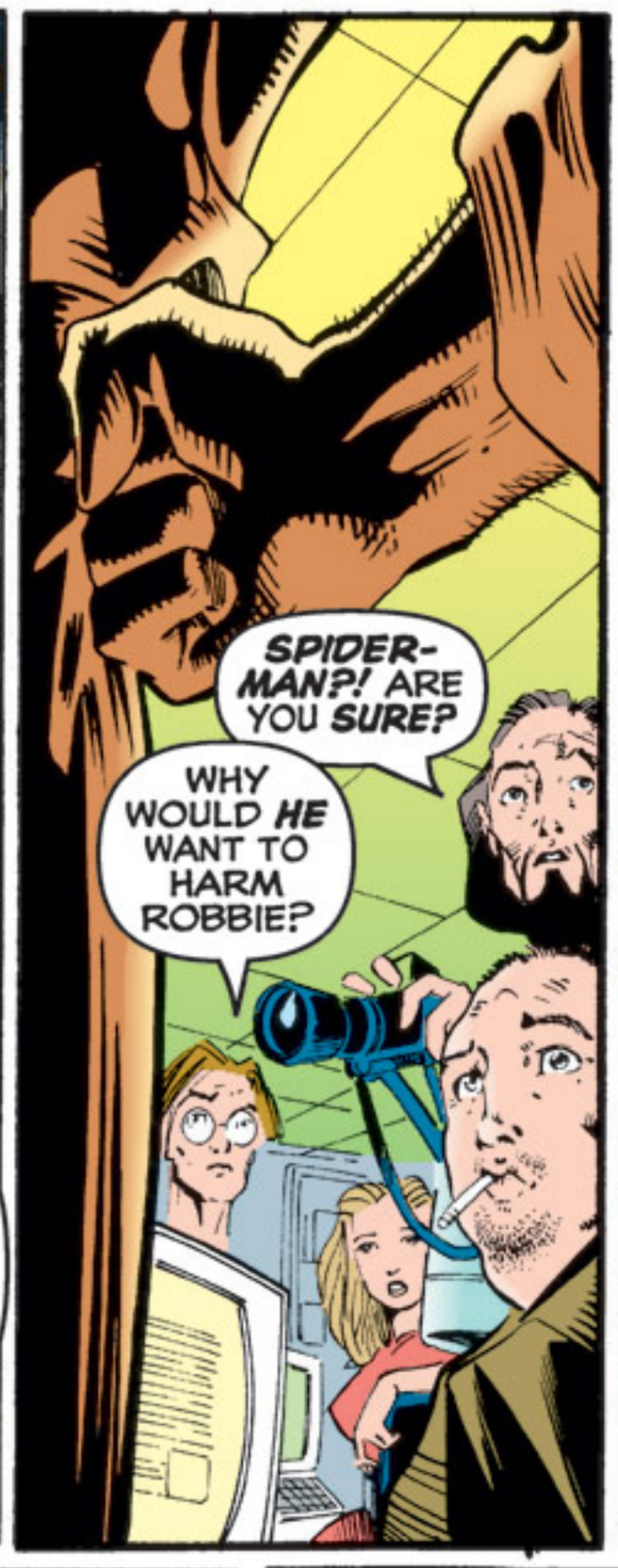

I'VE GOT TO END THIS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!
MY HEAD SEEMS TO BE GETTING WORSE BY THE MOMENT, AND --
YEOW!


WHO THE HECK FIRED THAT BOLT OF ENERGY?
KAZZAK
IF MY SPIDER-SENSE HADN'T MADE ME LUNGE BACK WHEN I DID --!


HI, SPIDER-MAN! DID YOU MISS ME?
MAX DILLON --?!
ELECTRO?!?
I...I THOUGHT YOU HAD RETIRED!
NO SUCH LUCK, LITTLE MAN! I'M BACK -- STRONGER AND MORE POWERFUL THAN EVER!
AND I'LL NEVER ALLOW YOU TO HUMILIATE ME, AGAIN!
H-HUMILIATE YOU?! DON'T YOU REMEMBER HOW I SAVED YOUR LIFE A FEW MONTHS BACK? YOU EVEN THANKED ME!

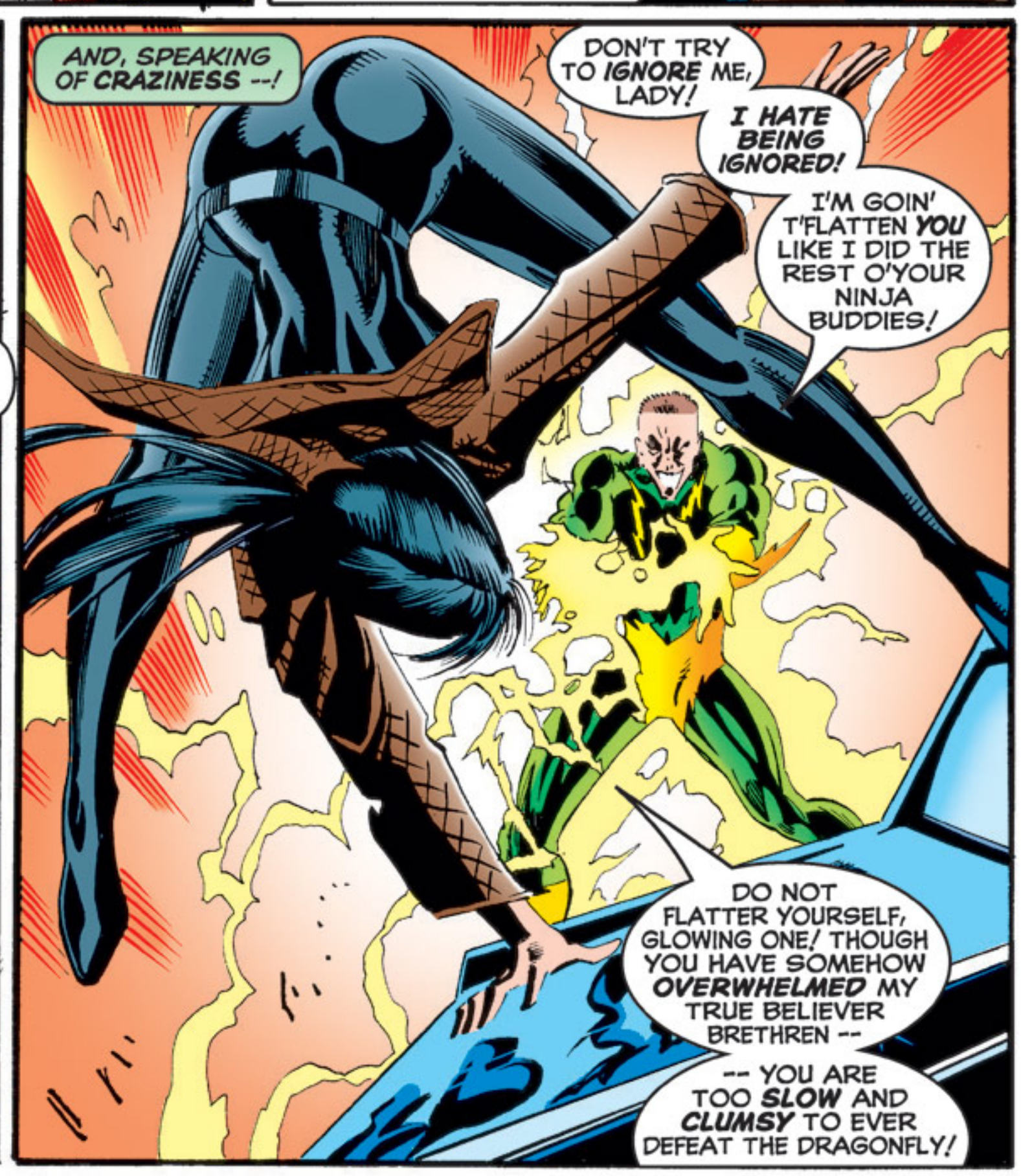
THAT MAY BE HOW YOU REMEMBER IT, BUT -- OOPS!
Uh... I'LL GET BACK T'YOU, WEBHEAD!
THE SHOCK OF SEEING YOU AGAIN ALMOST MADE ME FORGET THE REAL REASON I'M HERE.
I HAVE A JOB T'DO FOR A SPECIAL FRIEND, BUT -- DON'T YOU WORRY --IT WON'T TAKE LONG!
KRAKA
ZAMM
NOPE!
NOT LONG AT ALL!


STOP THE PRESSES!
I JUST GOT AN EYEWITNESS REPORT THAT A GANG OF NINJAS -- LED BY SPIDER-MAN -- ARE ATTEMPTING TO ASSASSINATE JOE ROBERTSON!

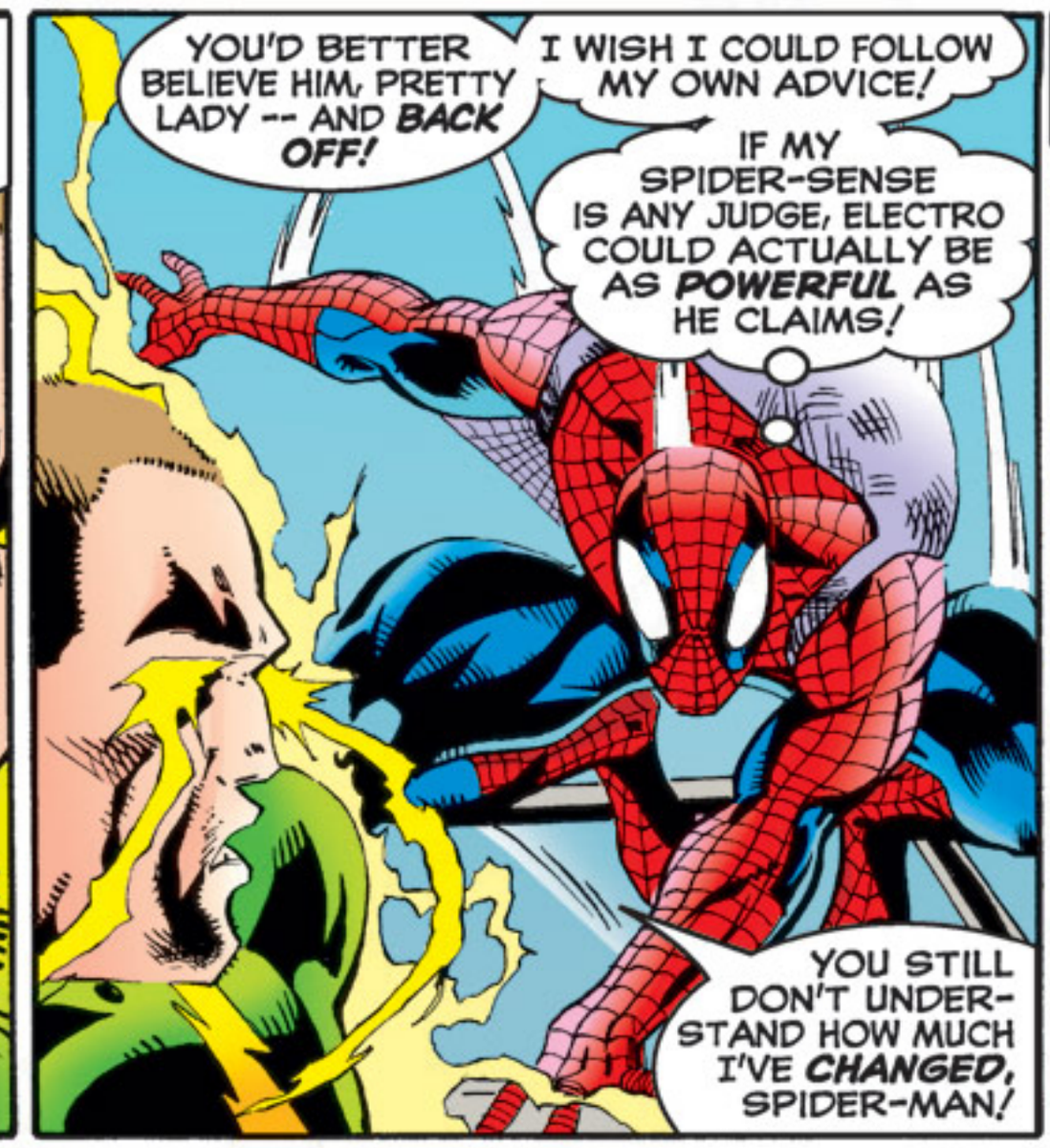

SPIDER-MAN?! ARE YOU SURE?
WHY WOULD HE WANT TO HARM ROBBIE?

HOW SHOULD I KNOW? WHILE YOU'RE WASTING TIME ASKING ME DUMB QUESTIONS, THE REAL STORY IS STILL UNFOLDING!
I WANT A REPORTER AND OUR BEST PHOTOGRAPHER ON THE SCENE!
WHERE IS PARKER? NO WONDER THAT PINHEAD'S BEEN MISSING OUT ON ASSIGNMENTS. HE'S NEVER AROUND WHEN I NEED HIM!

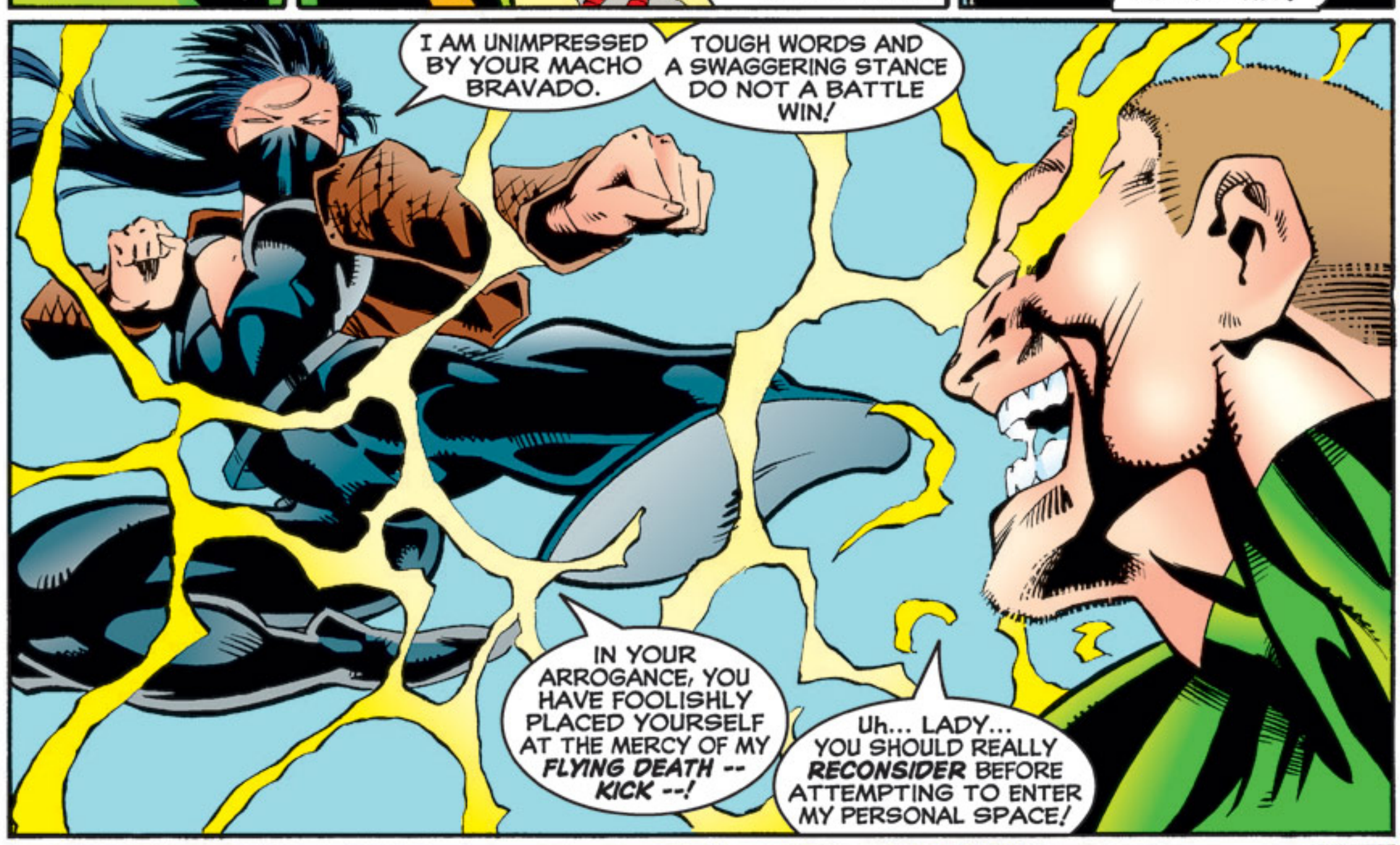
MEANWHILE...
THERE! I'VE CALLED BOTH 911 AND THE BUGLE! ALL I CAN DO NOW IS WAIT... AND PRAY!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, JOE? HOW DARE YOU RISK YOUR LIFE -- AND EVERYTHING WE HAVE TOGETHER -- FOR SOME STUPID STORY?!
THIS CRAZINESS HAS GOT TO STOP! I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!

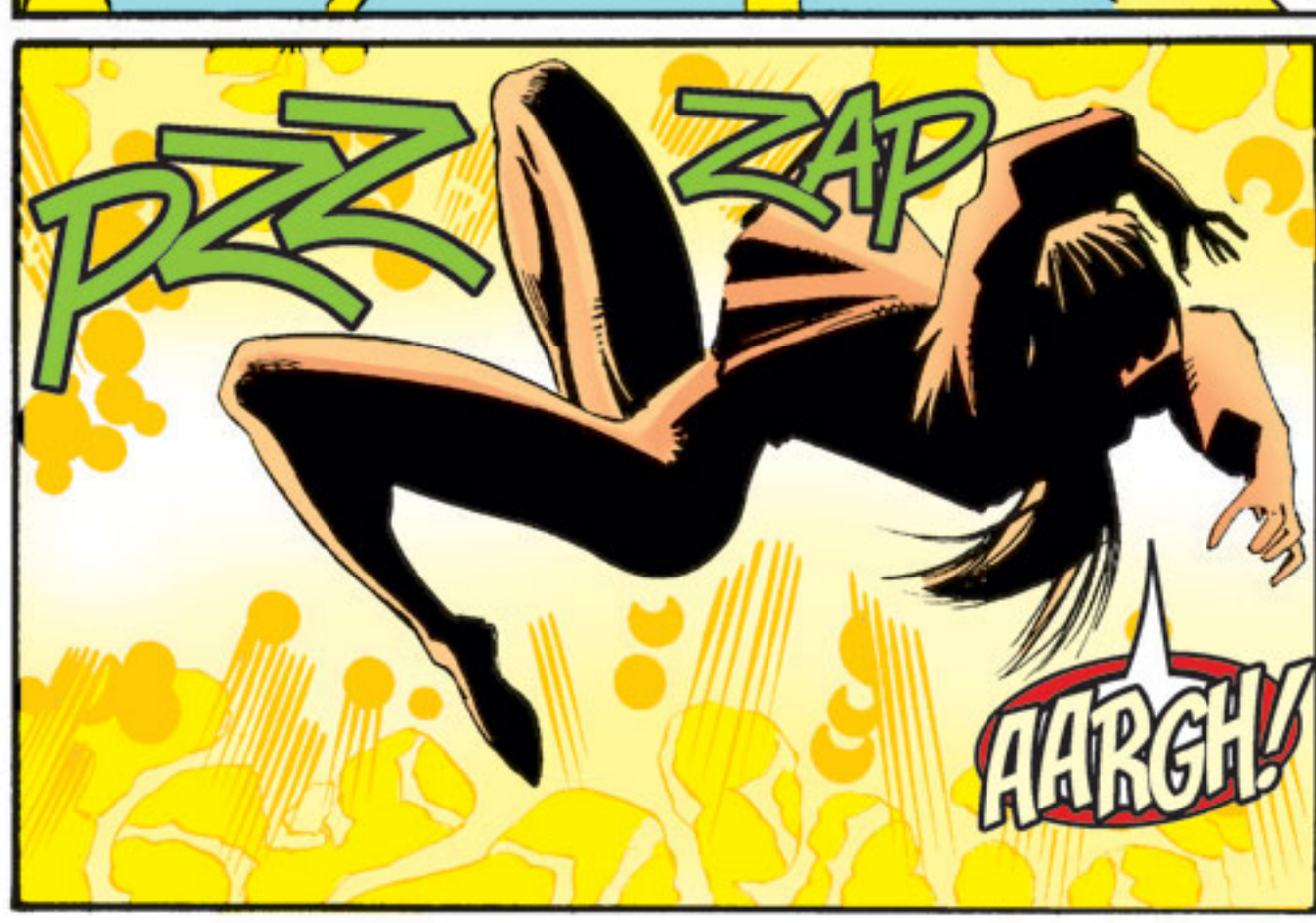

AND, SPEAKING OF CRAZINESS --!
DON'T TRY TO IGNORE ME, LADY!
I HATE BEING IGNORED!
I'M GOIN' T'FLATTEN YOU LIKE I DID THE REST O'YOUR NINJA BUDDIES!
DO NOT FLATTER YOURSELF, GLOWING ONE! THOUGH YOU HAVE SOMEHOW OVERWHELMED MY TRUE BELIEVER BRETHREN --
-- YOU ARE TOO SLOW AND CLUMSY TO EVER DEFEAT THE DRAGONFLY!

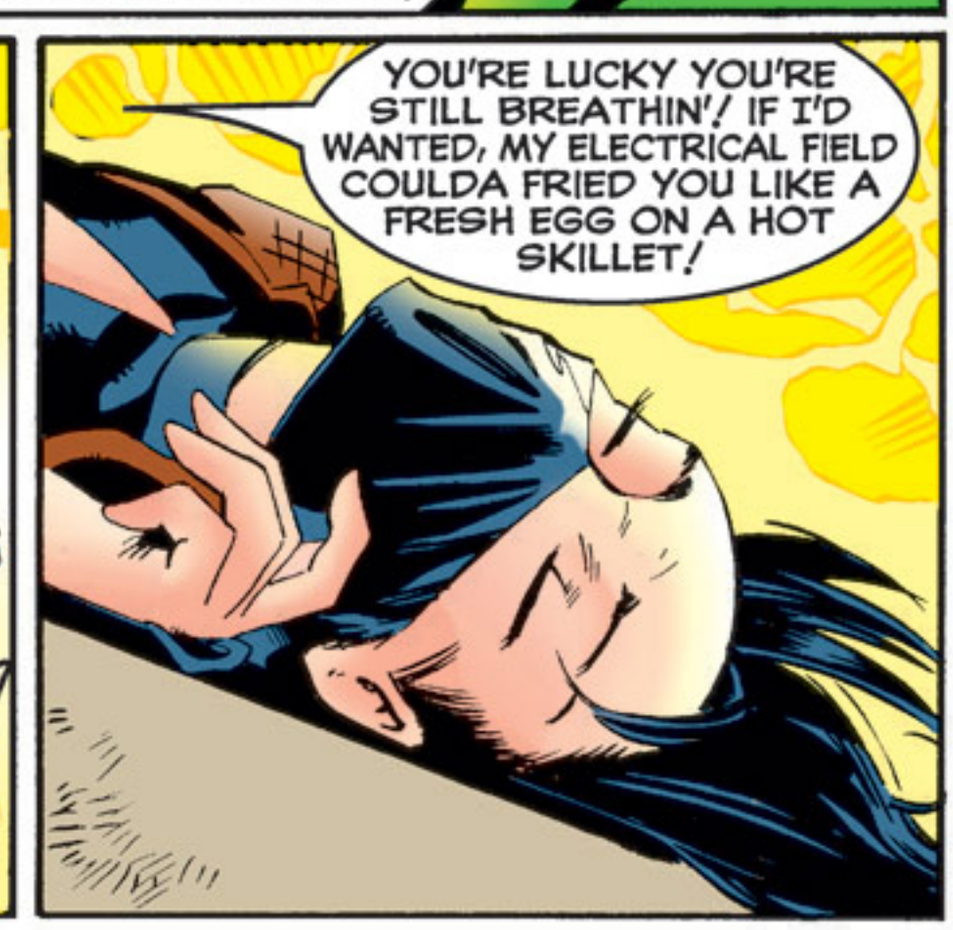
WHO NEEDS SPEED AND FINESSE -- WHEN YOU SIZZLE WITH RAW, UNTAMED POWER!

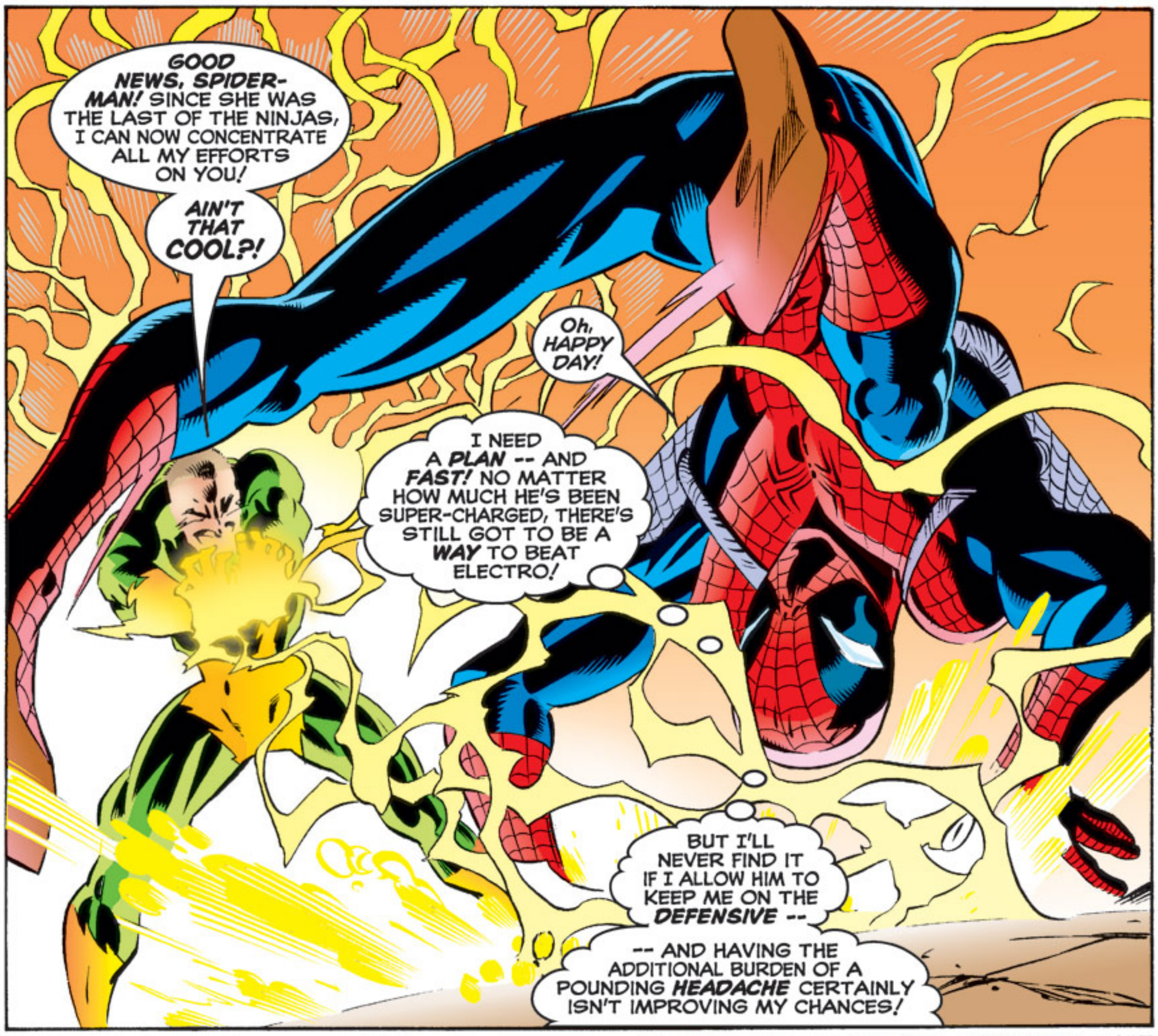

YOU'D BETTER BELIEVE HIM, PRETTY LADY -- AND BACK OFF!
I WISH I COULD FOLLOW MY OWN ADVICE!
IF MY SPIDER-SENSE IS ANY JUDGE, ELECTRO COULD ACTUALLY BE AS POWERFUL AS HE CLAIMS!
YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH I'VE CHANGED, SPIDER-MAN!

YOU THINK I'M THE SAME I'VE ALWAYS BEEN!
YOU'RE WRONG!
Oh, MAN! I CAN'T EVEN GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO TAG HIM!

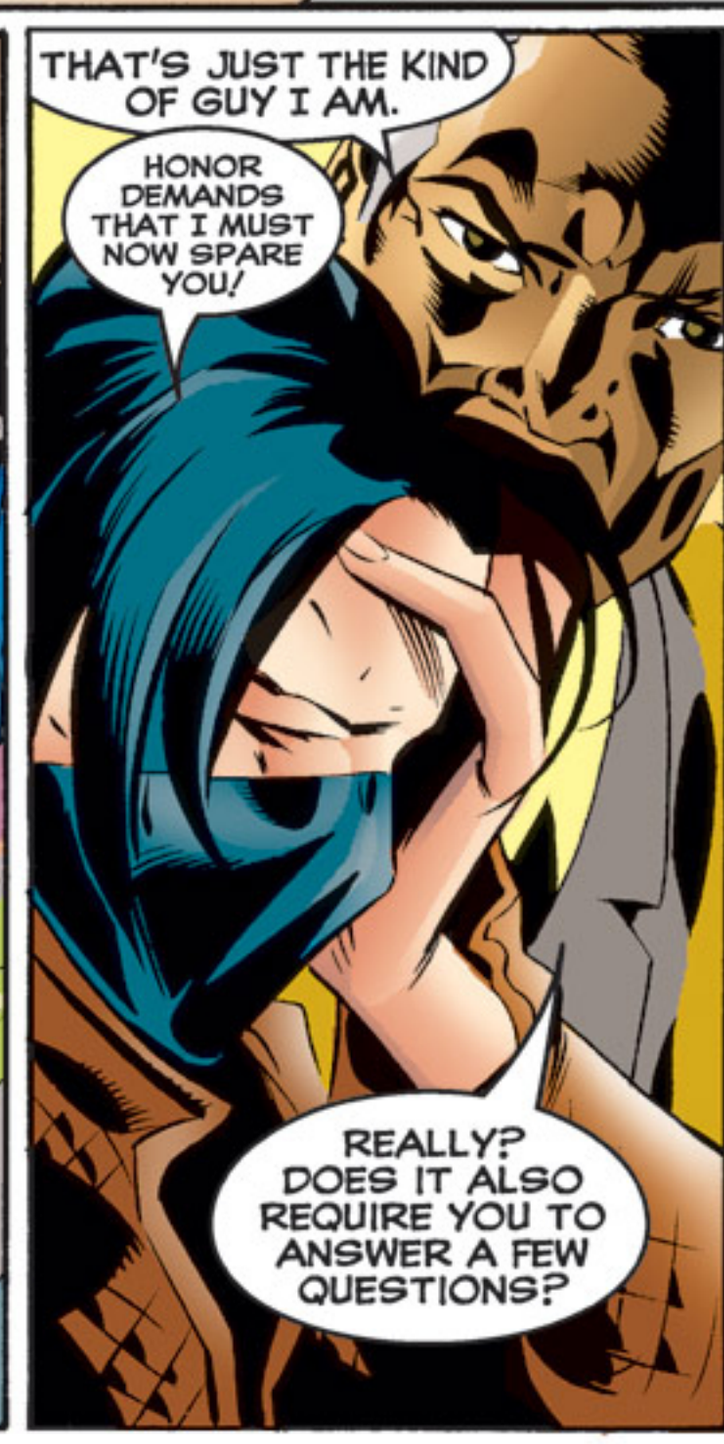

I AM UNIMPRESSED BY YOUR MACHO BRAVADO.
TOUGH WORDS AND A SWAGGERING STANCE DO NOT A BATTLE WIN!
IN YOUR ARROGANCE, YOU HAVE FOOLISHLY PLACED YOURSELF AT THE MERCY OF MY FLYING DEATH -- KICK --!
Uh... LADY... YOU SHOULD REALLY RECONSIDER BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO ENTER MY PERSONAL SPACE!


PZZ
ZAP
AARGH!

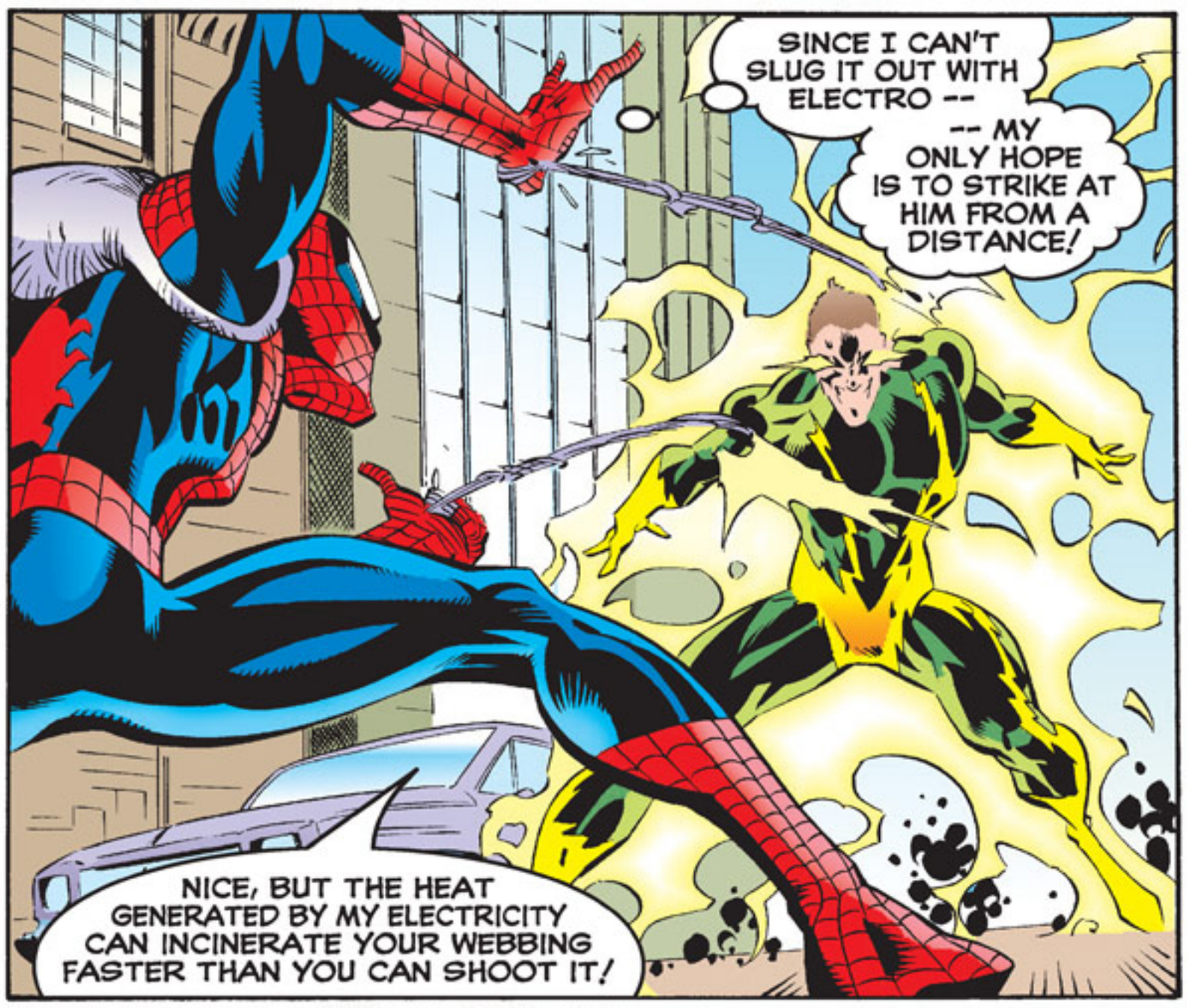

YOU'RE LUCKY YOU'RE STILL BREATHIN'! IF I'D WANTED, MY ELECTRICAL FIELD COULDA FRIED YOU LIKE A FRESH EGG ON A HOT SKILLET!


GOOD NEWS, SPIDER-MAN! SINCE SHE WAS THE LAST OF THE NINJAS, I CAN NOW CONCENTRATE ALL MY EFFORTS ON YOU!
AIN'T THAT COOL?!
Oh, HAPPY DAY!
I NEED A PLAN -- AND FAST! NO MATTER HOW MUCH HE'S BEEN SUPER-CHARGED, THERE'S STILL GOT TO BE A WAY TO BEAT ELECTRO!
BUT I'LL NEVER FIND IT IF I ALLOW HIM TO KEEP ME ON THE DEFENSIVE --
-- AND HAVING THE ADDITIONAL BURDEN OF A POUNDING HEADACHE CERTAINLY ISN'T IMPROVING MY CHANCES!

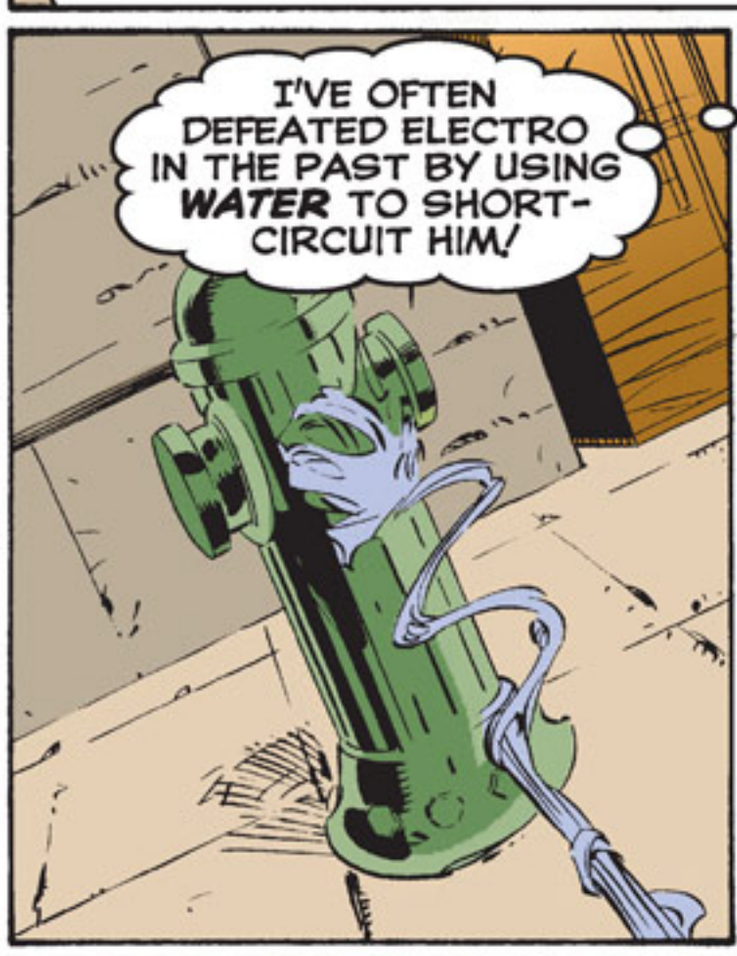
AND, EVEN AS SPIDEY EMPLOYS HIS AMAZING AGILITY TO AVOID ELECTRO'S DEVASTATING BLASTS...
TAKE IT EASY, YOUNG LADY.
YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE!
Y-YOU ARE HELPING ME? THE ONE SENT TO KILL YOU?!

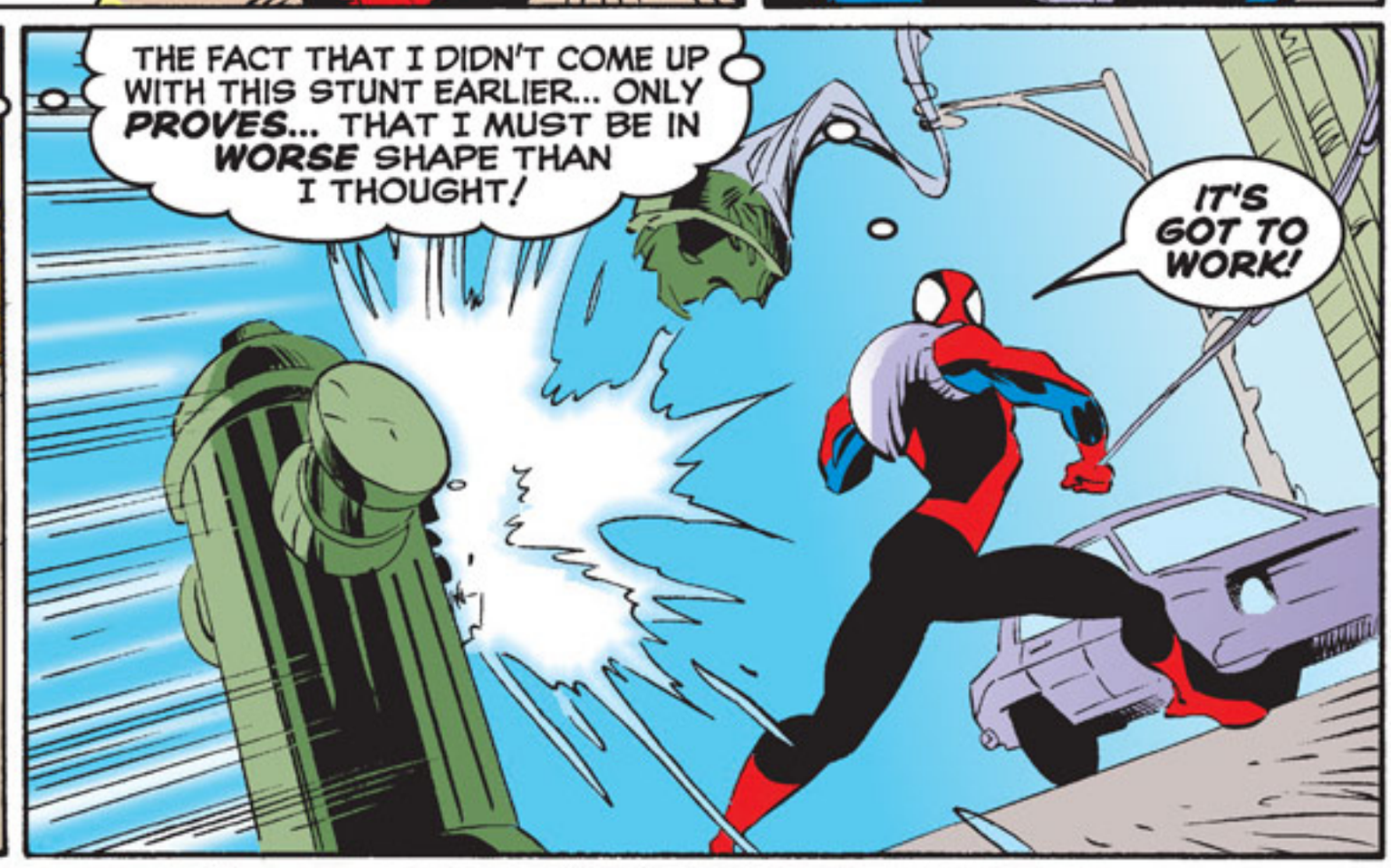

THAT'S JUST THE KIND OF GUY I AM.
HONOR DEMANDS THAT I MUST NOW SPARE YOU!
REALLY? DOES IT ALSO REQUIRE YOU TO ANSWER A FEW QUESTIONS?

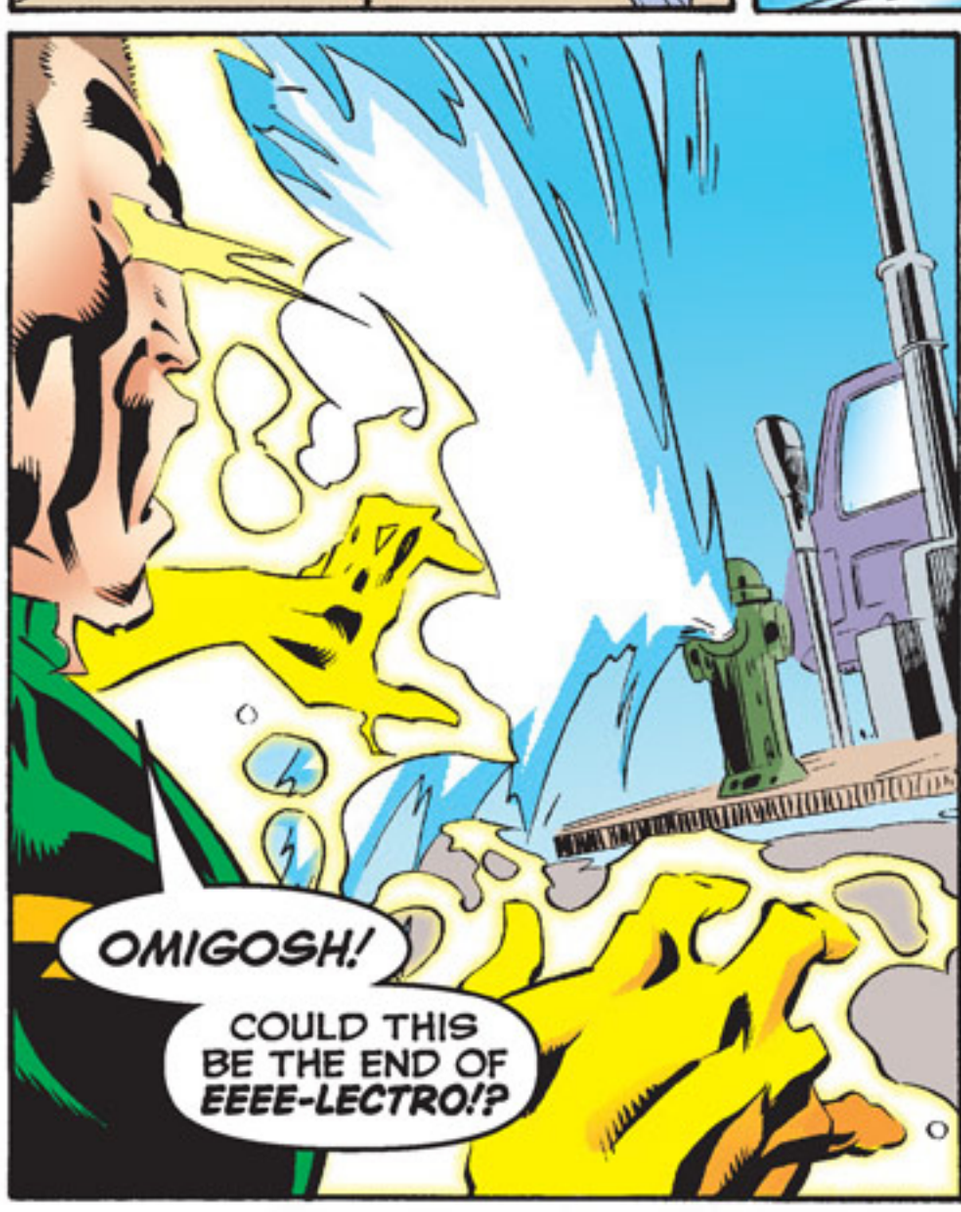
WHAT DO YOU WISH TO KNOW?
I NEED YOU TO CORROBORATE A FEW FACTS ABOUT THE BLACK TARANTULA!

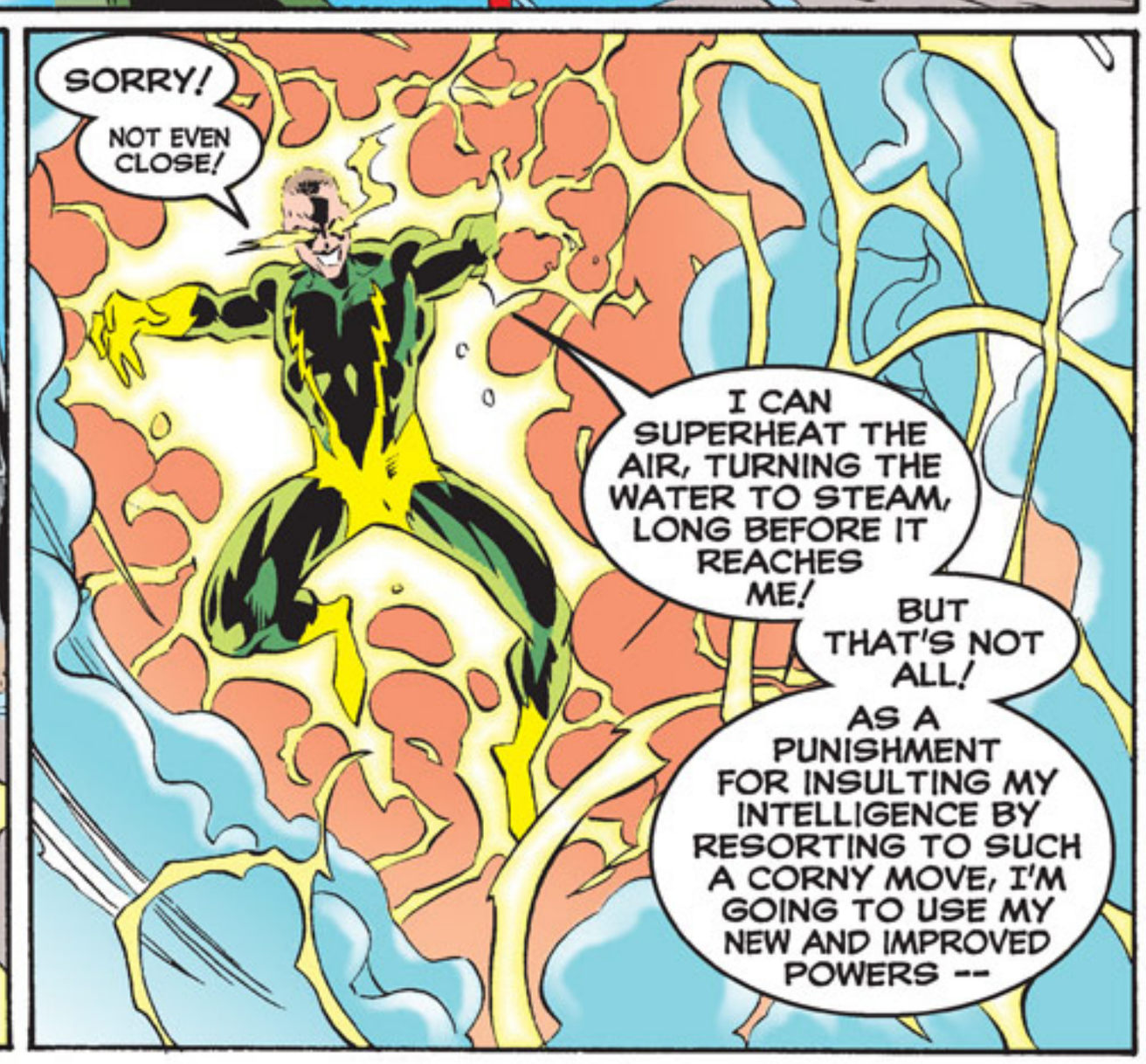

SINCE I CAN'T SLUG IT OUT WITH ELECTRO --
-- MY ONLY HOPE IS TO STRIKE AT HIM FROM A DISTANCE!
NICE, BUT THE HEAT GENERATED BY MY ELECTRICITY CAN INCINERATE YOUR WEBBING FASTER THAN YOU CAN SHOOT IT!

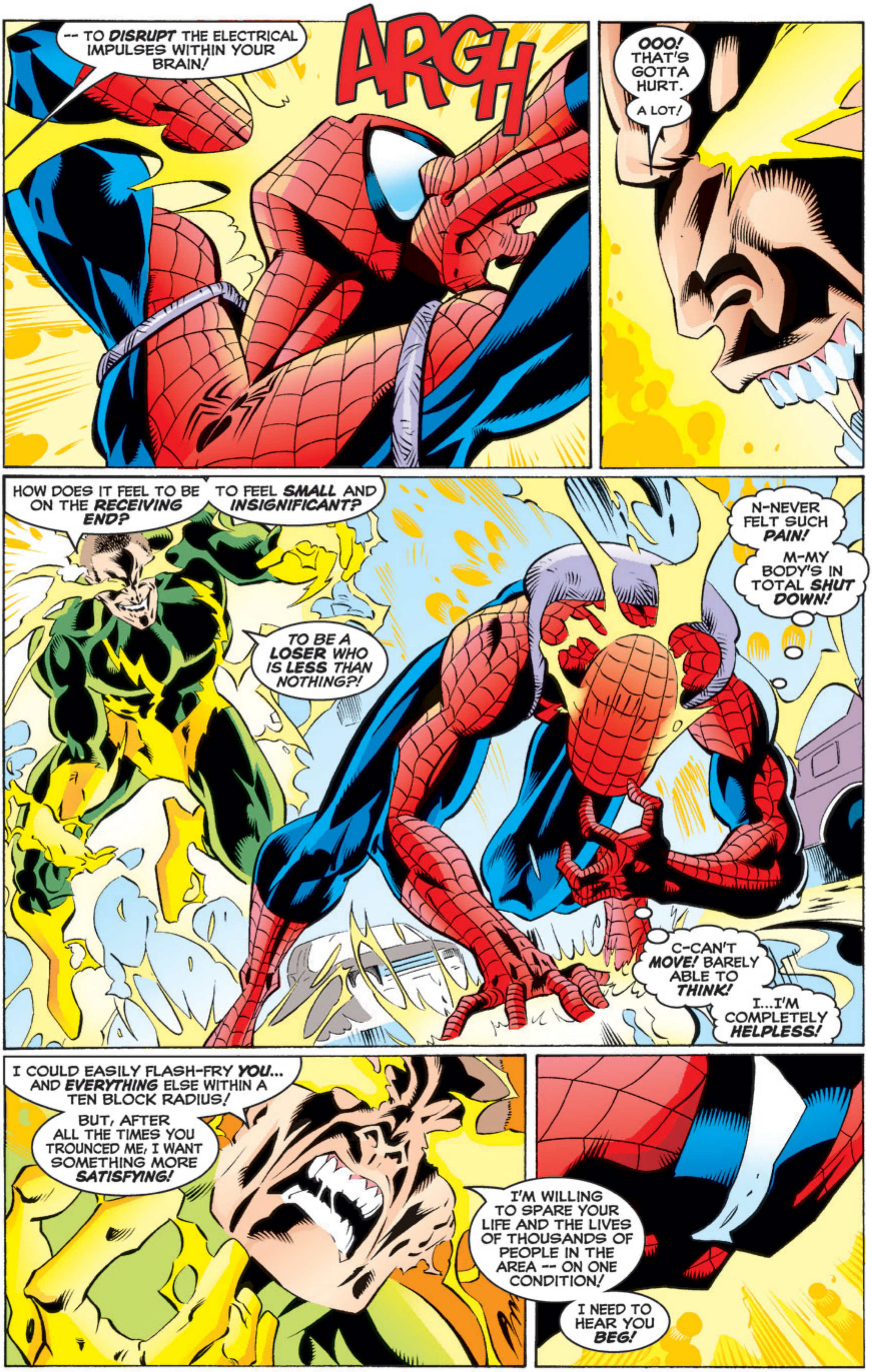
THINK, SPIDEY! THINK!
LIKE THAT'S EVEN POSSIBLE WHEN MY HEAD'S ABOUT TO BURST LIKE AN OVERINFLATED WATER BALLOON, AND --
HEYY! WATER!


I'VE OFTEN DEFEATED ELECTRO IN THE PAST BY USING WATER TO SHORT-CIRCUIT HIM!


THE FACT THAT I DIDN'T COME UP WITH THIS STUNT EARLIER... ONLY PROVES... THAT I MUST BE IN WORSE SHAPE THAN I THOUGHT!
IT'S GOT TO WORK!


OMIGOSH!
COULD THIS BE THE END OF EEEE-LECTRO!?

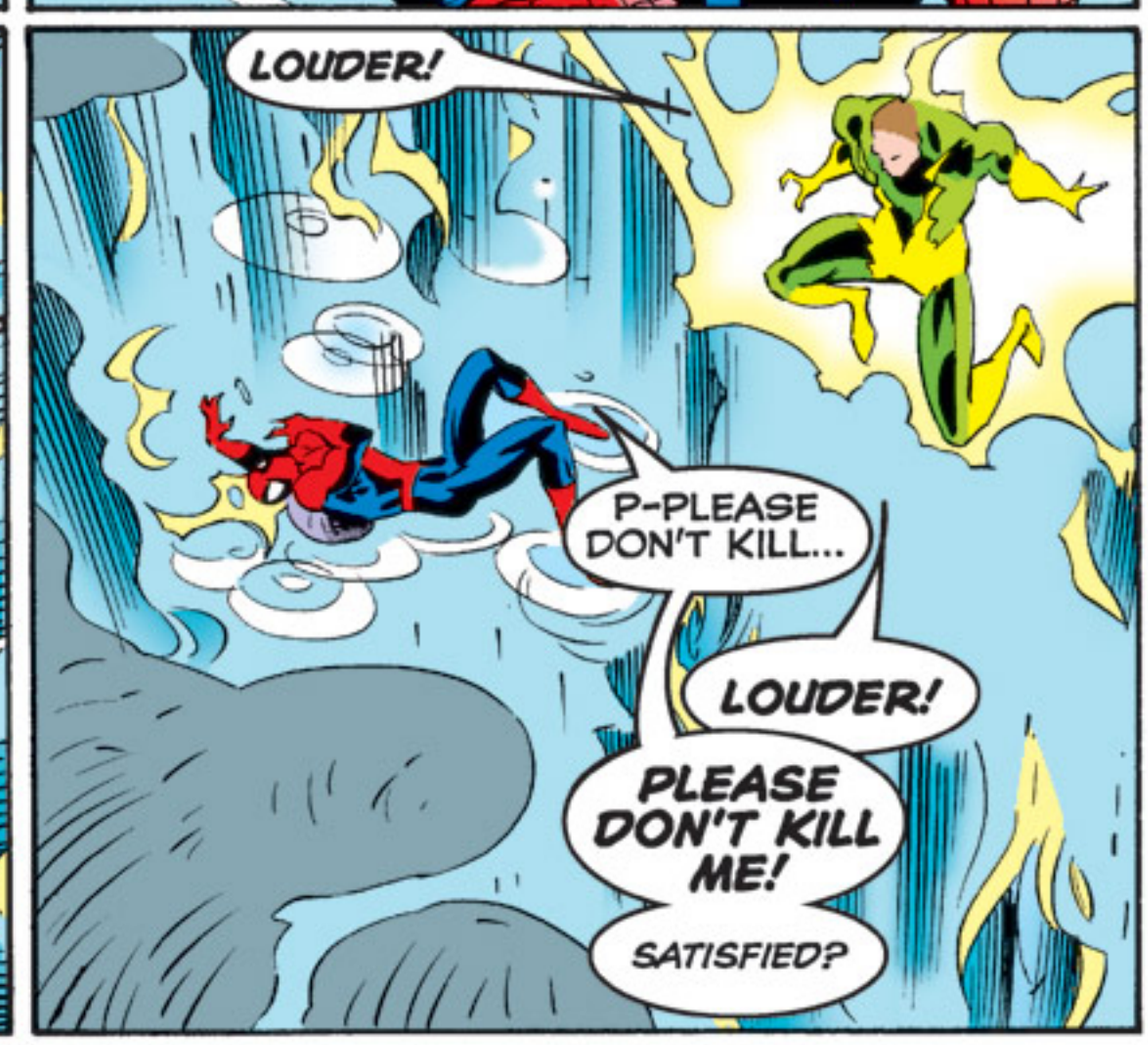

SORRY!
NOT EVEN CLOSE!
I CAN SUPERHEAT THE AIR, TURNING THE WATER TO STEAM, LONG BEFORE IT REACHES ME!
BUT THAT'S NOT ALL!
AS A PUNISHMENT FOR INSULTING MY INTELLIGENCE BY RESORTING TO SUCH A CORNY MOVE, I'M GOING TO USE MY NEW AND IMPROVED POWERS --


-- TO DISRUPT THE ELECTRICAL IMPULSES WITHIN YOUR BRAIN!
ARGH
OOO! THAT'S GOTTA HURT.
A LOT!
HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE ON THE RECEIVING END?
TO FEEL SMALL AND INSIGNIFICANT?
TO BE A LOSER WHO IS LESS THAN NOTHING?!
N-NEVER FELT SUCH PAIN!
M-MY BODY'S IN TOTAL SHUT DOWN!
C-CAN'T MOVE! BARELY ABLE TO THINK!
I...I'M COMPLETELY HELPLESS!
I COULD EASILY FLASH-FRY YOU... AND EVERYTHING ELSE WITHIN A TEN BLOCK RADIUS!
BUT, AFTER ALL THE TIMES YOU TROUNCED ME, I WANT SOMETHING MORE SATISFYING!
I'M WILLING TO SPARE YOUR LIFE AND THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE IN THE AREA -- ON ONE CONDITION!
I NEED TO HEAR YOU BEG!

WHAT'S IT GONNA BE, HERO?
YOU MAN ENOUGH TO LIVE WITH BEING TOTALLY HUMILIATED?

YOU WILLING TO SACRIFICE YOUR PRIDE? YOUR DIGNITY?!
WHAT'S YOUR CHOICE -- LIFE OR DEATH?!

P-PLEASE...
WHAT WAS THAT? I COULDN'T QUITE HEAR YOU!
P-PLEASE DON'T...


LOUDER!
P-PLEASE DON'T KILL...
LOUDER!
PLEASE DON'T KILL ME!
SATISFIED?

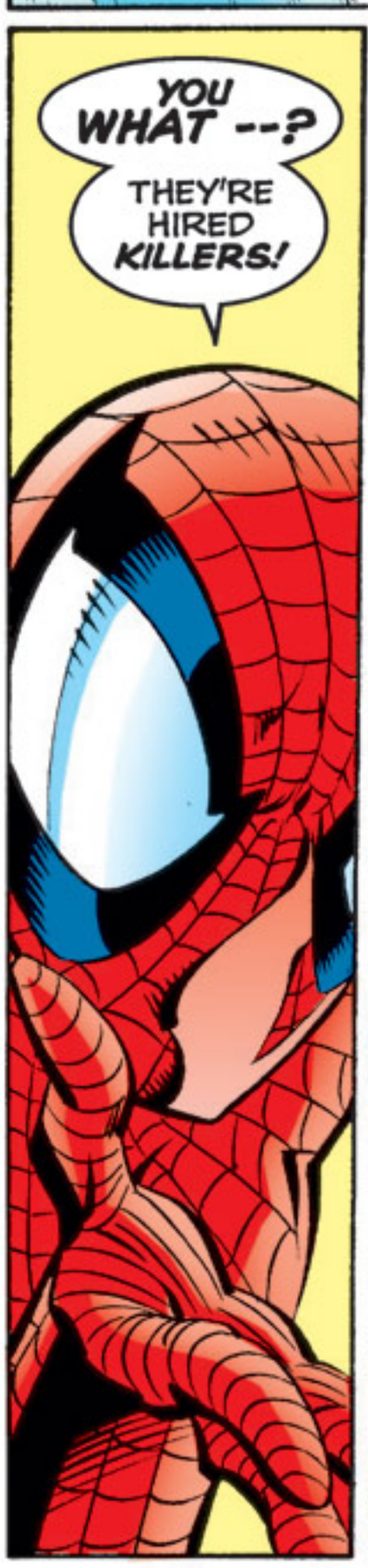
PERR-FECCTT!
THAT WAS ABSOLUTELY PERFECT!

I AM A REALLY HAPPY MAN!

W-WHAT HAVE I DONE?
DID I REALLY HAVE A CHOICE?
WHY DID I ALLOW HIM TO DEBASE ME LIKE THAT?
BUT SO MANY OTHER LIVES WERE AT STAKE.
HOW CAN I EXPLAIN THIS TO MARY JANE?

YOU OKAY, SPIDER-MAN? I WAS INSIDE THE STORE, AND MISSED THE FINAL ROUND.
HOW DID THINGS TURN OUT?
ELECTRO...
ESCAPED.

DID ROBBIE REALLY MISS THE BIG FINALE, OR IS HE JUST TRYING TO SPARE ME FURTHER EMBARRASSMENT?
HEY! WHERE'S DRAGONFLY AND HER NINJAS?
THEY'RE GONE.
I LET THEM GO!


YOU WHAT --?
THEY'RE HIRED KILLERS!

I SUPPOSE I COULD HAVE TRIED TO DO SOMETHING TO STOP THEM.
INSTEAD, I CHOOSE TO PURSUE A STORY.
LIFE IS FULL OF HARD DECISIONS.
YOU JUST DO YOUR BEST, AND TRY TO LIVE WITH THE CONSEQUENCES.

NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE, I HAVE TO FIND MY WIFE.